

GAO vs Cheney ■ Mistrusting the Media ■ Axis of Evil

THE AMERICAN Legion

\$2.50 JULY 2002

The magazine for a strong America

Why not
Torture?

"For God and Country" since 1919



FOUR GOLF SHIRTS

YES, Any 4 shirts for only 29.99 compare at up to \$34 each!

All These Colors! Sizes to 4XL!

New Customer offer: Less than \$7.50 a shirt —

OUR LOWEST PRICE EVER

NEW IMPROVED STYLING for 2002!

- Hefty knit of soft combed cotton and no iron polyester.
- Deep 3-button placket for easy on/easy off.
- Neatly taped collar seam.
- 100% Wash and Wear!
- Button thru chest pocket.
- Rib knit collar and cuffs.
- Straight bottom with side vents to wear in or out.
- Imported.

Get a summer's supply for less than the cost of 1 shirt elsewhere!

That's Haband's buying power:
4 shirts for only 29.99.

In stock and ready to ship direct to your doorstep.

Order Now!

NEW!
Superb Collar detail, woven right in!



100% Wash and Wear!

GOLF SHIRTS 4 shirts for only 29.99
5 for 36.30
6 for 42.85
7 for 49.30

Haband

1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Peckville, PA 18452

Send ___ shirts. I enclose \$_____ purchase price plus \$3.95 toward postage. GA residents add sales tax

☐ Check

☐ Visa

☐ MC

☐ Discover/Novus

☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

Card # _____ Exp.: ____/____/____

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

Address _____

Apt. # _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed or Full Refund of Purchase Price at Any Time!

Men's Sizes:

S(34-36) M(38-40) L(42-44) XL(46-48)

*Big Men's Sizes (\$2 more each):

2XL(50-52) 3XL(54-56) 4XL(58-60)

☺	7TT-1JA	WHAT SIZE?	HOW MANY?
17	Teal		
09	White		
EA	Berry		
LN	Melon		
EB	Burgundy		
3W	Dark Denim		
02	Tan		
08	Light Blue		
MP	Maize		

Haband!

Duke Habernickel, Pres.

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Peckville, PA 18452



Order Fast!

Call **1-800-543-4810**

OR Order on line at www.haband.com

THE AMERICAN Legion

JULY 2002
Vol. 153, No. 1

For God and Country

features|

12 When All Else Fails, Why Not Torture?

Should law enforcement be allowed to inflict pain with court approval?
By Alan Dershowitz

16 Ambitious Foes

The regimes of Iran and North Korea have what it takes to qualify for "axis of evil" membership.
By Frank J. Gaffney

20 The GAO's Assault on the Executive Branch

The lawsuit to collect classified information threatens to undermine accountability in the executive branch.
By John C. Eastman

24 Anything but Academic

Legion College gives tomorrow's leaders on-the-job training in reviving struggling posts.
By Jeff Stoffer

30 A Press for Diversity

Biased reporting on race, gay rights and other sensitive issues gives Americans reason to mistrust the media.
By William McGowan

38 Remote-Control Wars

U.S. Central Command's director of operations discusses cyber-technology's role in Afghanistan operations.
By Georgie Ann Geyer

departments|

4 Vet Voice

8 Commander's Message

Free VA to bill Medicare

44 Big Issues

Lift the U.S. embargo on Cuba

46 Living Well

New tests for hidden heart disease, good respiratory health and the risk in repairing aneurysms.

52 Washington Watch

Tax havens, terrorists in Canada and China's bin Laden connection.

54 Legion News

AVA for all veterans, asbestos claims and the 2002 National Oratorical winner.

60 Comrades

64 Parting Shots



The American Legion Magazine, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 2.7 million members. These wartime veterans, working through 15,000 community-level posts, dedicate themselves to God and Country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service; and the wholesome development of our nation's youth.



20



16



24

38



COVER: Should law enforcement be authorized to torture suspects thought to have information about impending terrorist attacks? Commentary on page 12.

Tony Stone

*If you're an American Legion Member Age 40 to 80**

GUARANTEED ACCEPTANCE for up to \$10,000**

More than
90,000
Legion Members
already enrolled!

Call today for a FREE QUOTE on
The American Legion Approved Plan
from Union Fidelity Life that gives you:

- Up to \$10,000 in benefits — that's \$5,000 in whole life benefits or \$10,000 for accidental death
- Affordable rates
- Cash and loan values
- Your choice of coverage amounts
- Spouses age 40 to 80 are also eligible
- 30-Day, RISK-FREE Review

* In NJ and MO available to members age 40 to 75. **Benefits are limited during the first two years for death due to natural causes. This offer is not valid in all states.

For complete information about rates, benefits and limitations of this plan, please call, or mail the coupon below.

CALL TOLL FREE TODAY
for your FREE RATE QUOTE
1-800-555-2976

8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, Central Time

Union Fidelity Life Insurance Company
A GE Financial Company

Meeting the needs of American Legion Members since 1987

Group Policy #A93391/A93381 is issued to The American Legion

☐ **YES! I'd like a FREE RATE QUOTE and FREE INFORMATION**
on The American Legion Approved Plan from Union Fidelity Life.

Name _____

Membership # _____ Post # _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ (so we can prepare your FREE QUOTE)

Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female Telephone (____) _____

Mail to: American Legion-Approved Insurance Plans
Union Fidelity Life Insurance Company
PO Box 5007, Carol Stream, IL 60197-5007

32882

Cert. No. 1-3391/3381

THE AMERICAN Legion

For God and Country

700 N. Pennsylvania St.

P.O. Box 1055

Indianapolis, IN 46206

(317) 630-1200

<http://www.legion.org>

National Commander **Richard J. Santos**

Published by **The American Legion**

EDITORIAL

Editor **John Raughter**

Managing Editor **Jeff Stoffer**

Contributing Editor **Steve Brooks**

Assistant Editor **James V. Carroll**

Assistant Editor **Matt Grills**

Assistant Editor **Elissa Kaupisch**

Editorial Administrator **Patricia Marschand**

General Administrator **Brandy Ballenger**

General Administrator **Robin Bowman**

GRAPHICS/PRODUCTION

Graphics/Production Director **Jon Reynolds**

Art Director **Holly K. Soria**

Designer **Douglas Rollison**

Designer **King Doxsee**

ADVERTISING

Advertising Director **Diane Andretti**

Advertising Assistant **Sara Palmer**

Advertising Assistant **Leslie Hankins**

The American Legion Magazine

P.O. Box 7068

Indianapolis, IN 46207

Publisher's Representatives

Fox Associates, Inc.

Chicago: (312) 644-3888

New York: (212) 725-2106

Los Angeles: (310) 841-0280

Detroit: (248) 543-0068

Atlanta: (404) 252-0968

San Francisco: (415) 989-5804

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE COMMISSION

Dennis J. Henkemeyer, Chairman, Sauk Rapids, MN; Samuel Barney, Vice Chairman, Lancaster, OH; Charles E. Hartman, National Commander's Representative, Eau Claire, PA; James J. Charleston, Consultant, Island Lake, IL; Casimir F. Sojka, Consultant, New Rochelle, NY. *Commission Members:* Harold F. Arnold, Statesboro, GA; J.O. Berthelot, Gonzalez, LA; Vincent E. Blank, Vinton, IA; James P. Comiskey, Pittsburgh, PA; Donald R. Conn, South Bend, IN; James W. Conway, Charlestown, MA; Bettylou Evans, Laurel, DE; Philip B. Finley, Colby, KS; James Hall, Hopewell, NJ; Theodore Hartmann, Smithton, IL; Hoy M. Haught, Huntsville, AR; Joe D. Mercer, Oklahoma City, OK; J. Fred Mitchell, Brewton, AL; Silas M. Noel, Frankfurt, KY; Everett G. Shepard III, Woodstock, CT; George G. Sinopoli, Fresno, CA; Robert E. Vass Sr., Huntington, WV; Frank C. Ward, Greenville, SC; Delores A. Ziegler, Bellevue, WA. *NEC Liaison Committee:* Ray White, Chairman, Huntsville, AL; William W. Kile, Petersburg, WV; John W. Stingerie, Hawthorne, NV; Jerrold W. Wilson, Harrison, OH.

Copyright 2002 by The American Legion

The American Legion (ISSN 0886-1234) is published monthly by The American Legion, 5745 Lee Road, Indianapolis, IN 46216. Periodicals postage paid at Indianapolis, IN 46204 and additional mailing offices. Annual non-member and gift subscriptions, \$15 (\$21, foreign); post-sponsored and widows' subscriptions, \$6; single copy, \$3.50. Member annual subscription price \$3.00, which is included in annual member dues. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The American Legion, Input Services, P.O. Box 1954, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Internet address: <http://www.legion.org>.

Change of Address: Notify The American Legion, Input Services, P.O. Box 1954, Indianapolis, IN 46206. (317) 860-3111. Attach old address label, provide old and new addresses and current membership card number.

Canada Post International Publications Mail (Canadian Distribution) Sales Agreement No. 546321. Re-entered second-class mail matter at Manila Central Post office dated Dec. 22, 1991.



Printed in USA
Member Audit Bureau of Circulations

Embracing Our Nation's Heritage

United States Mint Proof Sets

Order your 2002 United States Mint Proof Set® and United States Mint 50 State Quarters Proof Set™ today! These sets not only make a worthy addition to your collection, they also make excellent gifts. From graduations to holidays, proof sets are gifts of historic beauty that are sure to be appreciated. This year's quarters honor Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana, Indiana and Mississippi. The ten-coin set also includes the Lincoln cent, Jefferson nickel, Roosevelt dime, Kennedy half-dollar and the Golden Dollar featuring Sacagawea. Proof coins are unlike any other, with a distinctive cameo appearance created by the contrast of finely detailed frosted foregrounds against a shimmering mirror-like background. The unparalleled quality and brilliance of these coins is only possible through the exacting proofing process. Each coin bears the San Francisco Mint's "S" mintmark and includes a Certificate of Authenticity.

To order call **1-800-USA-MINT**
(1-800-872-6468) or visit www.usmint.gov



Coins shown not actual size.

- Multiple-struck mirror-finish
- Protective transparent case
- Coins bear the San Francisco Mint's "S" mint mark
- Includes Certificate of Authenticity

Q02 — \$13.95

P02 — \$19.95



Obverse



Tennessee



Ohio



Louisiana



Indiana



Mississippi



UNITED STATES MINT
Department of the Treasury
Serving America Since 1792

2002 United States Mint Proof Sets



ORDER FORM

Opt. No.	Qty.	Item	Price	Subtotal
1	P02	2002 United States Mint Proof Set®	\$19.95	
2	Q02	50 State Quarters Proof Set™	\$13.95	
9		Shipping and Handling		\$3.95
A120165			Total Order Price	\$

Orders are not valid until accepted by the United States Mint. You may cancel your order at any time prior to United States Mint processing. If for any reason within 30 days of receiving your product you are dissatisfied with your purchase, return the entire product for replacement or refund. The United States Mint reserves the right to limit quantities and may discontinue accepting orders at any time. In the event a particular coin option is sold out, the United States Mint reserves the right to either process partial orders and make refunds or return orders in their entirety. Please allow approximately 1-2 weeks for delivery.

MAIL THIS ORDER FORM TO: United States Mint, P.O. Box 382601, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-8601

Call **1-800-USA-MINT**, or visit our website at www.usmint.gov

DO NOT SEND CASH. Make check or money order payable to: United States Mint

METHOD OF PAYMENT: ☐ Check ☐ Money Order

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Credit Card Account #

Credit card orders will not be billed until product is shipped but checks are deposited upon receipt by the United States Mint. Expiration Date
Month Year

Signature Date

()

Daytime Telephone Number

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY: STATE: ZIP:

To inquire about your order, please write to Customer Care Center, United States Mint, Lanham, MD 20706, or call 1-800-USA-MINT. Hearing and speech impaired customers with TTY equipment can place an order by calling 1-888-321-MINT. To place your credit card orders by fax, please fax the order form with your credit card number to (301) 918-2039, Attn: Order Processing

PC invasion

The article "America Expelled" (May) asks the question "Will political correctness devour patriotism in today's schools?" "Correctness" in no way applies to that monster!



Here at Oregon State University, rising journalist Isaiah Flair translated "pc" as "politically coercive" or "political coerciveness" when we discussed my concern about "political dominance" as the real meaning of the "pc" indoctrination in lieu of education. We know it as a wry twist of words, but let's not use a good word like "correct" about anything as vicious and polluting as the "pc" invasion of education!

—Fred W. Decker, Corvallis, Ore.

Family does best

In response to Mr. Bennett's article "America Expelled," I agree with most of what he has to say. It is true that many educators are not doing a good job teaching patriotism in our classrooms.

However, teaching patriotism is more effective when it is taught by family. I spend much of my school year teaching about our country's history and what it means to be a proud American. During the weeks preceding Veteran's Day, many of my lessons honor those who served in the armed forces. My students bring in veteran family members as guest speakers. The students are captivated by what these veterans say. The guest speakers, without exception, speak of how proud they are to have served their country and how fortunate each one of the students are to be living in this country. Those children who brought their mom, dad or grandparent sit with pride and learn what patriotism truly is. It is very hard for a teacher to do a better job than that.

—John M. Estill, Lake St. Louis, Mo.

Killing schools

It is beyond comprehension to realize that there is actually a

school that has as its goal laying the groundwork for an orgy of suicide and murder by young, impressionable school kids ("Schools of Hate," May). The exposure of these types of operations is a vital necessity for our need to understand the danger facing us today and tomorrow. Our media outlets should declare that "Operation Martyrdom" is the only goal of our misguided enemies and that our people have to be alert and aware of the inherent dangers that confronts us now and in the future. We will have to fight these evil deeds with all the strength and knowledge we can garner.

—Joe Jacobs, San Diego, Calif.

Leans to the right

The American Legion Magazine continues its lurch to the right. Articles rarely reflect the views of moderates and never those of a liberal persuasion. I am a Christian, yet my deepest concern is the demonization of the Moslem faith in recent articles. Surely you are aware there over 1 billion Moslems in the world.

Perceptive Americans can see that those are American-made and American-supplied tanks invading land taken from law-abiding Palestinians who now have no place to go. Your magazine is pushing for a position contrary to the views of most Americans. Our own American Revolution was fought over

the basic principal of the British trying to impose their will upon what was rightfully ours.

Hopefully, in the future, your magazine will present a more balanced approach.

—Robert Raisor, Michigan City, Ind.

Thanks for the memories

My wife and I would like to thank you for the poem "In Flanders Fields" on the cover of the May issue. We have heard this poem many times and always think of our fallen friends.

—Leroy Schalk, Enid, Okla.

Praise due

As a Korean War veteran and a life-long Catholic, it was great seeing a national magazine laud a heroic priest such as Father Albert Braun ("The Unforgettable Father Braun," *Legion News*, May), who served in World Wars I and II.

A small percentage of bad priests have made national headlines for months with not one mention of the thousands of heroic priests. Thanks, American Legion. Hopefully your article will start a trend.

—Jerry Mazenko, Garden Grove, Calif.

History lesson

I was particularly impressed with the even-handed approach to the history of the Arab-Israel conflict ("Middle-East Tightrope," May). It provided me with one of the more lucid, historical depictions of the conflict and its near-impossible resolution.

—Neil Leitner, Vancouver, Wash.

Liberty coverage

Ben Barber's article "The Middle-East Tightrope" mentions a setback on the security front concerning the USS *Liberty*. He said that Israel, after attacking the ship, called it a mistake but the survivors say otherwise, and that there was no formal investigation to determine precisely how it happened. Now wouldn't you think that after one of our ships was attacked in international waters and 34 members of the crew were killed and 171 wounded, there should have been a formal investigation? It's what we call a cover-

WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS

The American Legion Magazine welcomes letters concerning articles that appear in the publication. Be sure to include your hometown and a daytime phone number for verification. All letters are subject to editing. Send your opinions to:

The American Legion Magazine
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206

You can also contact us via e-mail directly or through the World Wide Web:

e-mail: magazine@legion.org
Internet: <http://www.legion.org>

TYPE 2 DIABETES

“glucovance™
(Glyburide and Metformin HCl Tablets)

**WORKS 2 WAYS
TO GIVE ME *BETTER*
BLOOD SUGAR CONTROL!”**

*Two powerful medications
combined to work together:*

**HELPS YOUR BODY
RELEASE MORE INSULIN**

and

**HELPS YOU USE INSULIN
MORE EFFECTIVELY**



glucovance™ lowers blood sugar better than the leading diabetes pill*

If you need better blood sugar control, ask your doctor about Glucovance. When diet and exercise are not enough, adding Glucovance can help you lower your blood sugar better than the leading diabetes pill.* Glucovance works differently than other leading medications: it helps your body release more insulin and works, in part, by helping your body use insulin more effectively. Glucovance works in these ways to provide powerful blood sugar control. By taking Glucovance, you may be able to take less medication to control your blood sugar.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: GLUCOVANCE is not for everyone. In rare cases, GLUCOVANCE may cause lactic acidosis (buildup of lactic acid in the blood), which is serious and can be fatal in half the cases. This occurs mainly in people whose kidneys are not functioning properly. Tell your doctor about your alcohol use because it can affect your risk. You should not take GLUCOVANCE if you: have kidney problems, are 80 or older (unless your kidneys have been tested), are taking medication for heart failure, are seriously dehydrated, have a severe infection, or if you have or have had liver disease.

The most common side effect is diarrhea. Symptoms of hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) such as lightheadedness, dizziness, shakiness or hunger may also occur.

Please see additional important patient information on next page.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT **glucovance™**
1.25mg/250mg 2.5mg/500mg 5mg/500mg

WWW.GLUCOVANCE.COM 1-800-263-1980



Bristol-Myers Squibb Company

A leader in type 2 diabetes care.

* Glucophage (metformin hydrochloride tablets)/generic metformin is the leading diabetes pill.

Glucovance® is a registered trademark of LIPHA s.a. Licensed to Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
©2002 Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, Princeton, NJ 08543 F7-H006M Issued: May 2002

Printed in USA

PATIENT INFORMATION ABOUT GLUCOVANCE®

(Glyburide and Metformin HCl Tablets)

WARNING: A small number of people who have taken metformin hydrochloride have developed a serious condition called lactic acidosis. Properly functioning kidneys are needed to help prevent lactic acidosis. Most people with kidney problems should not take GLUCOVANCE. (See Question Nos. 9-13.)

Q1. Why do I need to take GLUCOVANCE?

Your doctor has prescribed GLUCOVANCE to treat your type 2 diabetes. This is also known as non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus.

Q2. What is type 2 diabetes?

People with diabetes are not able to make enough insulin and/or respond normally to the insulin their body does make. When this happens, sugar (glucose) builds up in the blood. This can lead to serious medical problems including kidney damage, amputations, and blindness. Diabetes is also closely linked to heart disease. The main goal of treating diabetes is to lower your blood sugar to a normal level.

Q3. Why is it important to control type 2 diabetes?

The main goal of treating diabetes is to lower your blood sugar to a normal level. Studies have shown that good control of blood sugar may prevent or delay complications such as heart disease, kidney disease, or blindness.

Q4. How is type 2 diabetes usually controlled?

High blood sugar can be lowered by diet and exercise, by a number of oral medications, and by insulin injections. Before taking GLUCOVANCE you should first try to control your diabetes by exercise and weight loss. Even if you are taking GLUCOVANCE, you should still exercise and follow the diet recommended for your diabetes.

Q5. Does GLUCOVANCE work differently from other glucose-control medications?

Yes it does. GLUCOVANCE combines two glucose lowering drugs, glyburide and metformin. These two drugs work together to improve the different metabolic defects found in type 2 diabetes. Glyburide lowers blood sugar primarily by causing more of the body's own insulin to be released, and metformin lowers blood sugar, in part, by helping your body use your own insulin more effectively. Together, they are efficient in helping you achieve better glucose control.

Q6. What happens if my blood sugar is still too high?

When blood sugar cannot be lowered enough by GLUCOVANCE your doctor may prescribe injectable insulin or take other measures to control your diabetes.

Q7. Can GLUCOVANCE cause side effects?

GLUCOVANCE, like all blood sugar-lowering medications, can cause side effects in some patients. Most of these side effects are minor. However, there are also serious, but rare, side effects related to GLUCOVANCE (see **Q9 - Q13**).

Q8. What are the most common side effects of GLUCOVANCE?

The most common side effects of GLUCOVANCE are normally minor ones such as diarrhea, nausea, and upset stomach. If these side effects occur, they usually occur during the first few weeks of therapy. Taking your GLUCOVANCE with meals can help reduce these side effects.

Less frequently, symptoms of hypoglycemia (low blood sugar), such as lightheadedness, dizziness, shakiness, or hunger may occur. The risk of hypoglycemic symptoms increases when meals are skipped, too much alcohol is consumed, or heavy exercise occurs without enough food. Following the advice of your doctor can help you to avoid these symptoms.

Q9. Are there any serious side effects that GLUCOVANCE can cause?

GLUCOVANCE rarely causes serious side effects. The most serious side effect that GLUCOVANCE can cause is called lactic acidosis.

Q10. What is lactic acidosis and can it happen to me?

Lactic acidosis is caused by a buildup of lactic acid in the blood. Lactic acidosis associated with metformin is rare and has occurred mostly in people whose kidneys were not working normally. Lactic acidosis has been reported in about one in 33,000 patients taking metformin over the course of a year. Although rare, if lactic acidosis does occur, it can be fatal in up to half the cases.

It's also important for your liver to be working normally when you take GLUCOVANCE. Your liver helps remove lactic acid from your bloodstream.

Your doctor will monitor your diabetes and may perform blood tests on you from time to time to make sure your kidneys and your liver are functioning normally.

Q11. Are there other risk factors for lactic acidosis?

Your risk of developing lactic acidosis from taking GLUCOVANCE is very low as long as your kidneys and liver are healthy. However, some factors can increase your risk because they can affect kidney and liver function. You should discuss your risk with your physician.

You should not take GLUCOVANCE if:

- You have chronic kidney or liver problems
- You have congestive heart failure which is treated with medications, e.g., digoxin (Lanoxin®) or furosemide (Lasix®)
- You drink alcohol excessively (all the time or short-term "binge" drinking)
- You are seriously dehydrated (have lost a large amount of body fluids)
- You are going to have certain x-ray procedures with injectable contrast agents
- You are going to have surgery
- You develop a serious condition such as a heart attack, severe infection, or a stroke
- You are ≥80 years of age and have NOT had your kidney function tested

Q12. What are the symptoms of lactic acidosis?

Some of the symptoms include: feeling very weak, tired or uncomfortable; unusual muscle pain, trouble breathing, unusual or unexpected stomach discomfort, feeling cold, feeling dizzy or lightheaded, or suddenly developing a slow or irregular heartbeat.

If you notice these symptoms, or if your medical condition has suddenly changed, stop taking GLUCOVANCE tablets and call your doctor right away. Lactic acidosis is a medical emergency that must be treated in a hospital.

Q13. What does my doctor need to know to decrease my risk of lactic acidosis?

Tell your doctor if you have an illness that results in severe vomiting, diarrhea, and/or fever, or if your intake of fluids is significantly reduced. These situations can lead to severe dehydration, and it may be necessary to stop taking GLUCOVANCE temporarily.

You should let your doctor know if you are going to have any surgery or specialized x-ray procedures that require injection of contrast agents. GLUCOVANCE therapy will need to be stopped temporarily in such instances.

Q14. Can I take GLUCOVANCE with other medications?

Remind your doctor that you are taking GLUCOVANCE when any new drug is prescribed or a change is made in how you take a drug already prescribed. GLUCOVANCE may interfere with the way some drugs work and some drugs may interfere with the action of GLUCOVANCE.

Q15. What if I become pregnant while taking GLUCOVANCE?

Tell your doctor if you plan to become pregnant or have become pregnant. As with other oral glucose-control medications, you should not take GLUCOVANCE during pregnancy.

Usually your doctor will prescribe insulin while you are pregnant. As with all medications, you and your doctor should discuss the use of GLUCOVANCE if you are nursing a child.

Q16. How do I take GLUCOVANCE?

Your doctor will tell you how many GLUCOVANCE tablets to take and how often. This should also be printed on the label of your prescription. You will probably be started on a low dose of GLUCOVANCE and your dosage will be increased gradually until your blood sugar is controlled.

Q17. Where can I get more information about GLUCOVANCE?

This leaflet is a summary of the most important information about GLUCOVANCE. If you have any questions or problems, you should talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider about type 2 diabetes as well as GLUCOVANCE and its side effects. There is also a leaflet (package insert) written for health professionals that your pharmacist can let you read.

GLUCOVANCE® is a registered trademark of LIPHA s.a. Licensed to Bristol-Myers Squibb Company.

Micronase® is a registered trademark of Pharmacia & Upjohn Company.



Bristol-Myers Squibb Company

Distributed by
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Princeton, NJ 08543 USA

up. Ask a hundred people on the street of any age group, and 90 percent never heard of the *Liberty*. That's because there was about as much information in the news as the few lines in Barber's article. The crew of the *Liberty* was wronged and the American people fooled because no one in politics had the guts to say exactly what happened.

—Hank Wills, St. Helen, Mich.

Worth saving

Thank you for the superbly done article "The Middle-East Tightrope" (May). Mr. Barber's article is by far the best description of the Middle-East situation that I have ever read. It is a simple, direct and comprehensive presentation of that gnarly, complicated political and religious part of the world. The article is straight-forward, unbiased and beautifully organized.

I would encourage anyone who wants to understand our involvement in the Middle East to read it. I have laminated the pages containing this article so I can have them with me for easy reference in any discussions I have on the Middle East.

—Harland E. Carney, Chambersburg, Pa.

Constitutional claptrap

Having read *The American Legion Magazine* for many years, I've become accustomed to articles by reactionary writers who cloak their extreme right views as "patriotism." However, few articles have been as blatantly insulting to my intelligence as "The Misunderstood Constitution" by Balint Vazsonyi. There isn't enough space in this column to rebut all his asinine points about civil rights, women's suffrage, etc., but as a black American and long-time Legionnaire, I felt a duty to respond to some of his claptrap.

Vazsonyi's thesis that the three-fifths clause was at its origin a brilliant "color-blind" concept that black Americans have "just misunderstood," is pathetic. In a derisive fashion, he deems our outrage to be illegitimate and due mainly to our failure to appreciate the subtle essence of those sweet words.

Black people, like the Native Americans, know all too well that the real test of any document's essence is how its provisions are carried out (i.e. "actions speak louder than words"). While language and fractional equivalents can be debated, the application of Article I, Section 2 to "all other persons" cannot. Put into action, the common understanding of those "brilliant" words resulted in the exclusive diminution of black people to an inferior status in the social, financial and definitely political scheme of things. I submit that this "myth" genuinely reflected the prevailing white supremacist attitude that permeated race relations at the time.

Stinkingly disingenuous is Vazsonyi's assertion that the term "all other persons" was so broad and nonspecific that it really didn't mean those slaves who coincidentally were exclusively of black skin and African origin. Balint must actually think that all his readers are stupid, especially as he attempts to bolster this absurdity by citing the presence of what was a mere handful of "free" blacks in the southern states. This is all the more sinister because those folks were frequently re-enslaved at the mere whim of unscrupulous white persons. The absolute reality is that unless there were unearthly aliens around when the Constitution was written, there were no "other persons" beyond the free and Indians but the slaves.

—Al Ball, Somerset, N.J.

Hit nail on head

I just wanted to say that the article by Balint Vazsonyi on the Constitution was brilliant in every respect. I really enjoyed it because it is impossible to criticize that document. I am in the process of reading the recent book "John Adams," which makes you proud to be an American. Thank you for Mr. Vazsonyi's article.

—Earl J. Crow, Northfield, Minn.

Flat tax not the answer

After reading "Flat Tax: Freedom or Fraud?" (April), I have one salient suggestion: forget the flat-

tax concept for individuals until there is a solution to the tax on corporations. This tax is screaming to be dealt with since the Enron debacle. Congress should make this a top priority as it would show the country that they are serious about overhauling the tax system. When a company like Enron pays no income tax and goes "belly-up," it should make the taxpayers mad as hell, especially when the auditing firm was part of the scam.

As for the future of the flat tax for individuals, the 17-percent concept is misleading. When you add built-in deductions like Social Security tax, state tax, etc., you are closer to 25 percent to 30 percent – too much for the average wage earner.

Congress should show the country it is serious about the tax situation and go on record to initiate a revision of the tax code. First: the corporate world. Second: individual tax revision. A timetable and pledge to the American people would be a great start for this needed legislation.

—Joe Jacobs, San Diego, Calif.

Misplaced priorities

Have we misplaced our priorities? Consider the following:

On Sept. 11, about 3,000 people went to work in the vicinity of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Their jobs ranged from janitorial to professional. They were killed by terrorists. Their deaths were the result of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Minus any life insurance and pensions, the families of each of these people (U.S. citizens, resident aliens and illegal aliens) will receive an average of \$1,850,000 from the U.S. government.

On March 2, 2002, eight U.S. servicemen went to work in the vicinity of eastern Afghanistan. Their job was to defend freedom. They were killed by terrorists. Their deaths were the result of protecting America. Minus any life insurance and pensions, the families of each of these servicemen will receive an average of \$6,000 from the U.S. government.

—Mike McCarron, Bellevue, Neb.

Free VA to bill Medicare



National
Commander
Richard J. Santos
Chase Studios

"It is neither healthy nor fair that veterans must wait in line for fulfillment of benefits they earned."



If you are reading this article, you probably once wore a uniform that stood for your readiness to fight, to the death if necessary, for this great nation.

You may have survived a tour as a ball-turret gunner in the womb of a B-17. You may have been taken captive and led, blindfolded and half-naked, to some cage in a jungle for 18 months with only your hunger and prayers for company. You may have been a communications specialist, a supply sergeant, a drill instructor or a cook.

In any event, if you served honorably, you became a respected veteran of the U.S. armed forces.

Throughout your tour, you undoubtedly heard about benefits and entitlements coming your way after discharge.

You understood that home ownership was possible without a big downpayment. This was possible because, while others were climbing the career ladder for themselves, you were belly-crawling through mud for America.

You knew college education was going to be an option, thanks to the GI Bill.

You also understood that no matter what curveballs life might throw, medical care would always be available through the VA. You earned these rewards by fulfilling a potentially fatal duty to your country.

You may have served a two-year stint. Maybe four. But like most veterans, you were lucky and came home in one piece. You may have gone into business, pursued a college degree, or held down a good job at a mill, factory or mine. You paid taxes, raised a family and served your community. You became neither rich nor poor.

You became a typical American, except for one important distinction: You are a veteran.

And, at age 65, you retire. This is when it really hits you that Medicare does not cover prescription drugs. At the same time, you discover those drugs are priced beyond comprehension.

But the VA has a prescription-drug benefit with only a \$7 co-payment. You go to VA and are enrolled in Priority Group 7 – that population of more than 1.7 million veterans with ordinary income and 0-percent service-connected disability ratings.

And what do you find out? Of course you can use the VA health-care system. In fact, an act of Congress in 1996 specifically opened VA's door to *all veterans*, not

just those with service-connected disabilities or financial troubles.

But there are a few catches.

First, you need to take a number because several thousand other veterans who have made the same discovery about prescription drugs will be in line ahead of you. From your military training, you should remember what it means to "hurry up and wait." That training will come in handy because a few months might pass before you actually see a doctor. Afterward, there is no guarantee the VA pharmacy will have an ample supply of the medicine you are prescribed because resources may be spread too thin.

"Because VA health care is not an entitlement, money does run out each year. In other words, Congress is not required by law to appropriate the amount of money necessary to meet the health-care needs of all veterans."

By using your VA health-care benefit, you will now know that you are clogging the system, a system forced to operate on a budget that ebbs and flows with each Congress. The exact wording is "within existing appropriations."

With more and more veterans like you entering the system, high-quality health care can only be delivered in rations until the money runs out.

And because VA health care is not an entitlement, money does run out each year. In other words, Congress is not required by law to appropriate the amount of money necessary to meet the health-care needs of all veterans, only the amount that can be provided "within existing appropriations."

One other thing. VA cannot accept the Medicare insurance you spent your working life paying through mandatory paycheck deductions. All the cost above and beyond

If you have diabetes and are on Medicare...

Making this phone call could be as important as checking your blood.

1-877-460-5037

Wilford Brimley
Actor and Liberty
Medical
Customer

Liberty knows it is important to check your blood sugar often. It is what you need to do when you have diabetes.

They can make it easier. They are the nation's leader in home delivery of diabetes testing supplies. Hundreds of thousands of people just like you rely on Liberty. Call now and find out how Liberty can help you live a better life.



Delivered to your home with no charge for shipping. Liberty carries the top brands you know and trust. Your diabetes testing supplies arrive on time so you never have to worry about running out.

No upfront costs.* When you order from Liberty, you pay no money upfront. With qualified supplemental insurance, you may owe nothing at all!

No claim forms to fill out. Liberty is a Medicare participating provider. They fill out the claim forms and bill Medicare and your insurance company for you. Think of the time you will save. And your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed.

Medicare covers testing supplies for people with Type I and Type II diabetes.

**Call Liberty now for more information:
Toll-free 1-877-460-5037.**

*Deductibles and co-payments will apply.
Liberty's family of companies also provides respiratory medications and supplies, impotency systems and shoes for people with diabetes.

Find out how Liberty can help you live a better life.

Yes, I would like to know more about home delivery of diabetes testing supplies from Liberty Medical.

First Name	MI	Last Name	()
Address	Apt. #	Telephone	
City	State	Zip Code	
Signature			

By signing this Reply Form, you are authorizing a Liberty Medical sales representative to contact you by phone.

Mail this Reply Form to: Liberty Medical Supply, PO Box 9529, Port St. Lucie, FL 34985-9529

Or, call Liberty toll-free at **1-877-460-5037**

We Deliver Better HealthSM

LIBERTY
A PolyMedica Company

your co-payment, VA has to absorb. Perhaps this is why the system is so strapped that Priority Group 7 veterans were nearly cut out of the picture last year.

A VA for all veterans simply does not pencil "within existing appropriations" without authorizing VA to bill, collect, and retain reimbursements from Medicare. As a veteran of the U.S. armed forces and as a Medicare policyholder, you deserve the freedom to use your guaranteed federal insurance at any VA facility.

How We Got Here. When the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996 required VA to enroll all veterans into the system, we welcomed the invitation. If only it had been properly funded.

The measure divided veterans into seven "priority groups" – each with a separate set of conditions and benefits:

- Priority Group 1, ranked highest for funding, are those veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 50 percent or greater.

- Those with 30-percent and 40-percent disability ratings fit into Priority Group 2.

- Group 3 includes former POWs, Purple Heart recipients, veterans with 10-percent and 20-percent disability ratings, those discharged due to disabilities incurred or aggravated in the line of duty and others who fit specific criteria.

- Veterans receiving aid and attendance or housebound benefits, plus those determined to be catastrophically disabled, fall into Priority Group 4.

- Veterans with low annual income and/or net worth are in Group 5.

- Group 6 is for surviving veterans of early wars, along with those seeking care for unique conditions, like Gulf War Illness or problems linked to atomic testing or Agent Orange exposure.

- Most significantly, the 1996 act introduced Priority Group 7 veterans to the VA system. Although ranked last for funding, this generally healthy, financially stable group has, in the last six years, swelled VA's numbers by nearly 30 percent, to about 6 million enrollees.

"Most significantly, the 1996 act introduced Priority Group 7 veterans to the VA system. Although ranked last for funding, this generally healthy, financially stable group has, in the last six years, swelled VA's numbers by nearly 30 percent, to about 6 million enrollees."

Low co-payments for office calls and prescription drugs get much of the credit for that growth – especially when compared to Medicare's nearly complete lack of pharmaceutical coverage.

For many fixed-income veterans older than 65, low VA co-payments are worth the wait. But how healthy is that? Furthermore, how fair is it?

As veterans, we earned the right to use the VA health-care system. As workers, we paid into Medicare. It is neither healthy nor fair that any veteran should have to choose between waiting three months for a ration of under-funded VA health care or going broke trying to pay for prescriptions not covered by Medicare.

Repairing the Problem. Failing to adequately fund VA health care is like telling veterans they are invited to a dinner party, but they will have to stand in the back of the line. And, if there is not enough food, they will not get to eat. By rejecting their Medicare coverage, it is like telling them they cannot move up in line, even if they pay for their meals in advance.

The term "Medicare subvention" means authorizing VA to receive Medicare reimbursements – just as VA is authorized to bill, collect and retain money from private insurance companies and individual patients.

It works for the Indian Health Service, a federal agency not unlike VA. Members of The American Legion staff met with officials from the IHS. IHS treats approximately 1.5 million Native Americans a year with the authority to bill Medicare, Medicaid and other pri-

vate insurance for reimbursement.

The result for IHS has been improved quality, more accurate documentation, maximization of third-party resources, and about \$100 million a year that helps keep the IHS budget "within existing appropriations."

Now that is a model for VA to follow.

End of the Line. According to a May report by The Associated Press, some 42,000 veterans in Florida were stuck on waiting lists to see primary-care VA physicians. Tens of thousands more, all across the country, are in similar straits.

The AP report quoted Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Conn., as saying, "People are literally waiting until someone dies before they can be taken care of."

This era of health-care rationing must stop. It can only happen with resources to match the demand.

"There are precious few inefficiencies left for VA to wring out of its system," says Paul Morin, The American Legion's National Legislative Commission Chairman. "VA cannot do more with less. VA needs more resources to care for the increasing number of veterans seeking care."

We should not have to spend our retirement years waiting in line for the fulfillment of a promise that was made to us years ago.

We are veterans.

We deserve better treatment from those whose freedom we fought to save.

We deserve to have our Medicare help cover the cost of health care in VA facilities.

We have waited long enough.

Create Your Own Outdoor Room...In Just Seconds!



NEW! Motorized Model Now Available!

**LOW
Factory
Direct
Prices!**

Introducing The Revolutionary SunSetter® Retractable Awning!

If you're tired of having your outdoor enjoyment rained on...baked out...or just plain ruined by unpredictable weather.

At last there is a solution! One that lets you take control of the weather on your deck or patio! It's the incredible SunSetter® Retractable Awning! A simple... easy-to-use...& affordable way to outsmart the weather and start enjoying your deck or patio more...rain or shine!

The SunSetter® is like adding a whole extra outdoor room to your home... giving you instant protection from glaring sun...or sudden showers! Plus it's incredibly easy to use...opening & closing effortlessly in *less than 30 seconds!*

So, stop struggling with the weather... & start enjoying your deck or patio more!

**Call for a FREE Catalog & Video!
1-800-876-8060 Ext. 4053**

**Opens & Closes In
Less Than 30 Seconds!**



Just pull on the handy strap & your SunSetter® unrolls effortlessly!



You choose full sun, partial shade or total protection in just seconds!



**FREE!
Catalog
& Video**

FREE Catalog & Video
Call Toll-Free: 1-800-876-8060 Ext. 4053

☒ **Yes!** Please send your FREE Catalog & Video...including Special Savings now in effect...TODAY!

Name

Address

City State Zip

E-Mail

(IMPORTANT: Be sure to give us your e-mail address to receive our best deals!)



184 Charles Street, Dept. 4053, Malden, MA 02148
Visit us today at www.sunsetter.com

Create Your Own Outdoor Room...In Just Seconds!



NEW! Motorized Model Now Available!

LOW Factory Direct Prices!

Opens & Closes In Less Than 30 Seconds!

Good Housekeeping Promises
LIMITED WARRANTY TO CONSUMERS
 REPLACEMENT OR REFUND IF DEFECTIVE

Introducing The Revolutionary SunSetter® Retractable Awning!

If you're tired of having your outdoor enjoyment rained on...baked out...or just plain ruined by unpredictable weather.

At last there is a solution! One that lets you take control of the weather on your deck or patio! It's the incredible SunSetter® Retractable Awning! A simple... easy-to-use...& affordable way to outsmart the weather and start enjoying your deck or patio more...rain or shine!

The SunSetter® is like adding a whole extra outdoor room to your home... giving you instant protection from glaring sun...or sudden showers! Plus it's incredibly easy to use...opening & closing effortlessly in *less than 30 seconds!*

So, stop struggling with the weather... & start enjoying your deck or patio more!

Call for a FREE Catalog & Video!
1-800-876-8060 Ext. 4052



Just pull on the handy strap & your SunSetter® unrolls effortlessly!



You choose full sun, partial shade or total protection in just seconds!



FREE! Catalog & Video

FREE Catalog & Video
Call Toll-Free: 1-800-876-8060 Ext. 4052

☒ **Yes!** Please send your FREE Catalog & Video...including Special Savings now in effect...TODAY!

Name

Address

City State Zip

E-Mail

(IMPORTANT: Be sure to give us your e-mail address to receive our best deals!)

SunSetter®
 RETRACTABLE AWNINGS

184 Charles Street, Dept. 4052, Malden, MA 02148
 Visit us today at www.sunsetter.com

When all else fails . . .



Non-lethal techniques can be an effective means to produce truthful information in the war on terrorism.

BY ALAN DERSHOWITZ

Now that it has been disclosed that our government had information of “undetermined reliability” that New York City may have been targeted for a 10-kiloton nuclear weapon – from an agent whose code name is Dragon Fire – the arguments for empowering law-enforcement officials to do everything necessary to prevent a catastrophic terrorist attack are becoming more compelling.

In the immediate aftermath of Sept. 11, FBI officials leaked a story about their inability to obtain information from suspected terrorists by conventional means, such as buying the information with offers of cash or leniency, or

compelling the information by grants of immunity and threats of imprisonment for contempt. Those who leaked the story suggested that a time may come when law-enforcement officials may need to employ unconventional means, including non-lethal torture.

Thus resumed one of the most unusual debates in American legal and political history: should law enforcement be authorized to torture suspects who are thought to have information about a ticking bomb?

The Torture Warrant. This ticking-bomb scenario has long been a staple of legal and political philosophers who love to debate hypothetical cases that test the

limits of absolute principles, such as the universal prohibition against the use of torture, long codified by international treaties. The ticking-bomb case also has been debated, though not hypothetically, in Israel, whose security services long claimed the authority to employ “moderate physical pressure” in order to secure real-time intelligence from captured terrorists believed to know about impending attacks. The moderate physical pressure employed by Israel was tougher than it sounds, but not nearly as tough as the brutal methods used by the French in interrogating suspected terrorists during the Algerian uprisings. The Israeli security service took suspected terrorists, tied them to

why not torture?



chairs in uncomfortable positions for long periods of time with loud music blaring in the background, and then placed smelly sacks over their heads and shook them violently. Many tongues were loosened in the process and several terrorist attacks were averted without serious injury to suspects.

Torture, it turns out, can sometimes produce truthful information. The Israeli experience suggests information obtained as a result of torture should never be believed unless it can be independently confirmed, but such information can sometimes be self-proving, as when the subject leads law enforcement to the actual location of a bomb.

Nonetheless, the Israeli Supreme Court outlawed all use of even moderate, non-lethal physical pressure. It responded to the ticking-bomb scenario by saying that if a security agent thought it was necessary to use physical pressure in order to prevent many deaths, he could take

his chances, be prosecuted and try to raise a defense of necessity. In my book "Shouting Fire: Civil Liberties in a Turbulent Age," I criticized this decision on grounds that it places security officials in an impossible dilemma. It would be better if any such official could seek an advanced ruling from a judge as to whether physical pressure is warranted under the specific circumstances. Thus was born the proposal for a torture warrant.

Actually it was a rebirth, because 500 years ago torture war-

Is it better to have such torture done under the table, off the books and below the radar screen – or in full view, with accountability and as part of our legal system?

rants were part of British law. They could be sought only in cases involving grave threats to the crown or the empire and were granted in about one case a year. Judges even in those times were extremely reluctant to authorize thumb screws.

Why then should we even think about returning to an old practice that was abolished in England many years ago? The reason is because if we ever did have a ticking-bomb case – especially a ticking nuclear-bomb case – law-enforcement officials would in fact resort to physical force, even torture, as a last resort.

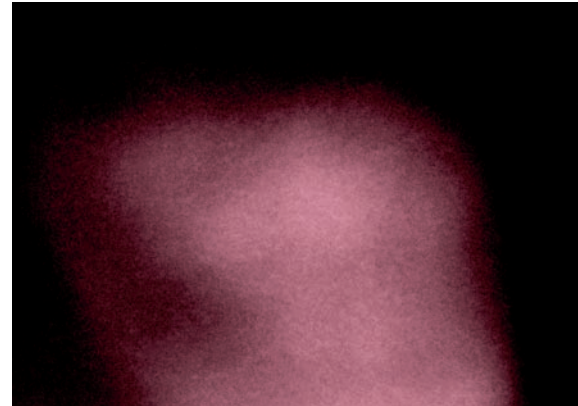
In speaking to numerous audiences since Sept. 11 – audiences reflecting the entire breadth of the political and ideological spectrum – I have asked for a show of hands as to how many would favor the use of non-lethal torture in an actual ticking-bomb case. The vast majority of audience members responded in the affirmative. So have law-enforcement officials with whom I have

spoken. If it is true that torture would in fact be used in such a case, then the important question becomes: is it better to have such torture done under the table, off the books and below the radar screen – or in full view, with accountability and as part of our legal system? It's a difficult question with powerful arguments on both sides.

On one hand, we have had experience with off-the-book policies such as President

Moreover, the rights of the suspect would be better protected with a warrant requirement. He or she would be offered immunity to provide the requested information or threatened with torture and imprisonment. Knowing such a threat was authorized by the law, the suspect might well provide the information. If he or she still refused, the suspect would be subjected to judicially monitored physical measures designed to cause ex-

ture would occur with a warrant requirement than without one. Recall the case of the alleged national-security wiretap placed on the phones of Martin Luther King Jr. by the Kennedy administration in the early 1960s. In those days, the attorney general could authorize a national-security wiretap without a warrant. Today, no judge would issue a warrant in a case as flimsy as that one. When Zaccarias Moussaoui was detained after trying to learn



Nixon's "plumbers" and Oliver North's "foreign-policy initiatives." In a democracy, accountability and visibility must be given high priorities. On the other hand, to legitimize torture and make it part of our legal system – even in extreme cases – risks reversion to a time when torture was routine.

Decrease of Violence. A key question is if the availability of a torture warrant would, in fact, increase or decrease its use by law-enforcement officials. I believe, though I cannot prove, that a formal requirement of a judicial warrant as a prerequisite to non-lethal torture would decrease the amount of physical violence directed against suspects. Judges would require compelling evidence before authorizing so extraordinary a departure from our constitutional norms, and law-enforcement officials would be reluctant to seek a warrant unless they had compelling evidence that the suspect had information needed to prevent an imminent terrorist attack.

cruciating pain without causing any lasting damage. A sterilized needle underneath the nail might be one such approved method. This may sound brutal, but it does not compare in brutality with the prospect of thousands of preventable deaths at the hands of terrorists.

Let me cite an example to demonstrate why I think less tor-

It is far better to discuss in advance the kinds of tragic choices we may encounter if we ever confront an actual ticking-bomb terrorist case than to wait until the case arises and let somebody make the decision in the heat of the moment.

how to fly an airplane, without wanting to know much about landing it, the government did not even seek a national-security wiretap because lawyers believed a judge would not have granted one. If Moussaoui's computer could have been searched without a warrant, it almost certainly would have been.

It is a great tragedy that we have to be discussing the horrors of torture. Some even believe that any discussion of the issue is beyond the pale of acceptable discourse in 21st-century America. But it is far better to discuss in advance the kinds of tragic choices we may encounter if we ever confront an actual ticking-bomb terrorist case than to wait until the case arises and let somebody make the decision in the heat of the moment. □

Alan Dershowitz is a law professor at Harvard University. His latest book is "Shouting Fire: Civil Liberties in a Turbulent Age."

Article design: King Doxsee



"To my surprise, after only one night, I awoke without any back pain. I have had a back problem for over 30 years. Thanks so much!"

—Jackalyn H., Yulee, FL



Why Back Pain Sufferers Sleep Better On Air®!

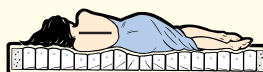
"Since using a Sleep Number bed, I wake up more refreshed, without any stiffness in my mid-back and lower back. This is the reason why I am very pleased with your product and I continually recommend the Sleep Number bed to my patients, friends and family."

—Dr. William M., Conshohocken, PA

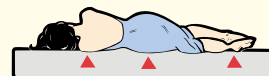
The Sleep Number Bed by Select Comfort.™ It's not just a better bed, but a better way to sleep. Even back pain sufferers can sleep more comfortably!

The SLEEP NUMBER® bed doesn't rely on springs or water, but on a cushion of air. Air gently contours to your body's shape, helping to reduce uncomfortable pressure points, and tests show it also helps to more properly support your back and spine.

Find your Sleep Number® with the Easy Push Button Firmness Control!



The Sleep Number® bed comfortably contours to your body, to more properly support your back and spine, and help to reduce pressure points.



Metal coil mattresses can create uncomfortable pressure points and provide uneven support over time.

TRY IT FOR 30 NIGHTS!

We're so sure you'll sleep better on air, you can take up to 1 month to decide, or your money back. You've got to sleep on it to believe it!

For a FREE VIDEO and Brochure, call now!

1-800-831-1211
Ext. 28613

Yes! Please rush me a FREE Video and Brochure.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Phone _____

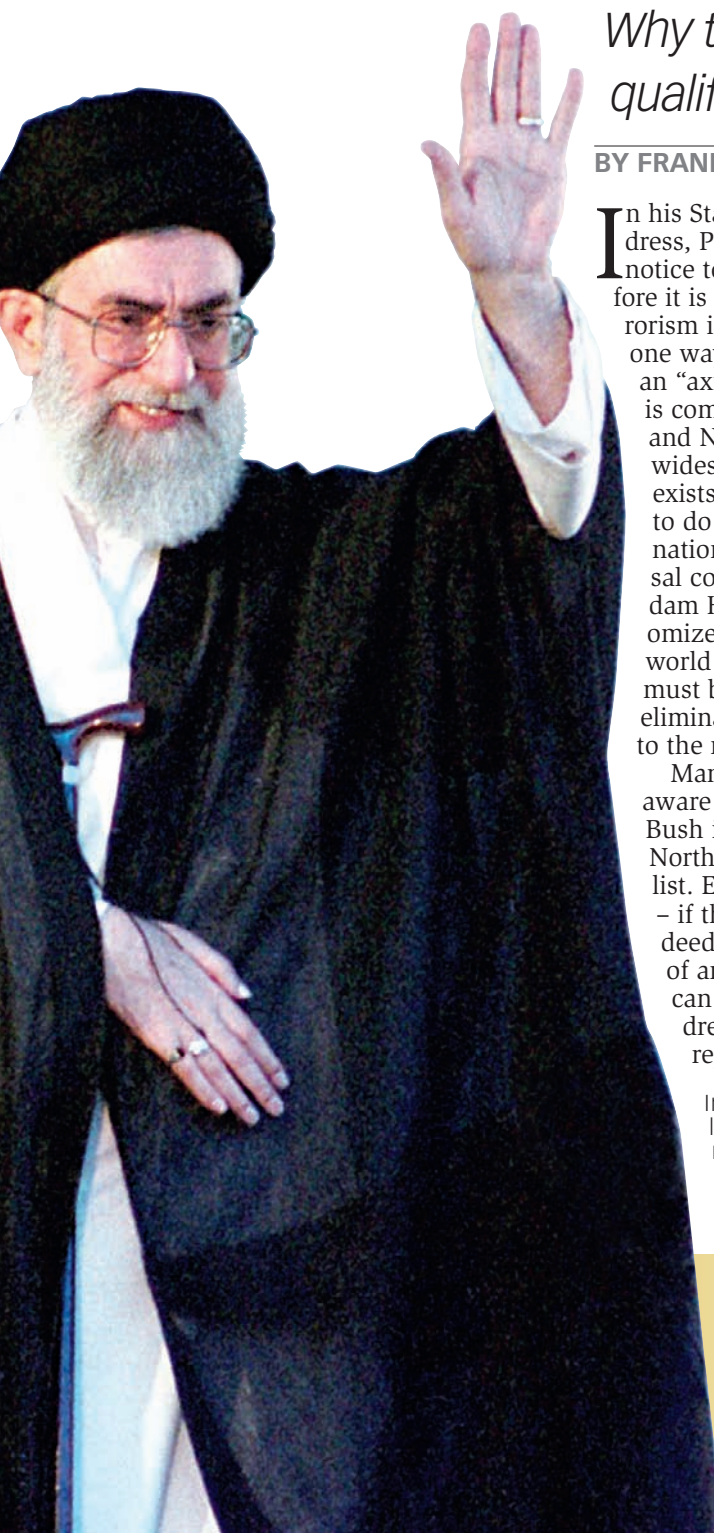
Ext. 28613



SELECT COMFORT®
Innovators of the Sleep Number® bed

Mail to: **Select Comfort Direct**
6105 Trenton Lane North, Minneapolis, MN 55442

Ambitious Foes



Why the regimes of Iran and North Korea qualify as members of the "axis of evil."

BY FRANK J. GAFFNEY JR.

In his State of the Union address, President Bush served notice to the world that, before it is over, the war on terrorism is going to contend – one way or another – with an “axis of evil.” This “axis” is comprised of Iraq, Iran and North Korea. While widespread disagreement exists over precisely what to do about the first nation, the nearly universal consensus is that Saddam Hussein’s regime epitomizes evil in the modern world and that something must be done to mitigate or eliminate the threat it poses to the rest of us.

Many people appear less aware of the reasons why Bush included Iran and North Korea on his enemies list. Even less clear is what – if these countries do indeed qualify as members of an “axis of evil” – we can and should do to address the dangers they represent.

Iran’s supreme religious leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, maintains control over the country’s military, security and foreign policy. *corbis*

The American people cannot safely remain uninformed about the threat emanating from these quarters and how it can be best addressed, lest Iran and North Korea continue to emerge in the first rank of this nation’s foes.

Dangerous Objectives. To understand the character of the Iranian regime, consider that Iran is a Shiite Muslim country. Like most Saudis, terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden belongs to the rival Sunni sect. That noteworthy difference aside, it seems safe to say that bin Laden aspires to install in his native Saudi Arabia – and elsewhere – an authoritarian theocratic regime akin to that imposed on the Iranian people after the 1979 revolution overthrew the Shah.

The dangers associated with such a regime are not hard to discern. Like the Taliban of Mullah Omar, the religious authorities in Iran under a succession of supreme religious leaders have inflicted their version of Islamic law on their country. While not quite as extreme as the Afghan version, the Iranian public – and particularly its young people and women – have experienced tremendous hardship over the past 23 years. The economy has been stunted, despite Iran’s tremendous oil wealth. And the prospects for the nation’s future under this government remain bleak.

Past attacks on U.S. facilities and personnel in Lebanon, the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia, Pan Am 103 and the first World Trade Center bombing are believed to have been aided and abetted by Iran.

Not surprisingly, there is strong resentment against the government, expressed twice in national elections that installed “reformers” in the presidency under Ayatollah Mohammed Khatami and in the legislature. However, the real power – notably control over the security, military and foreign-policy portfolios – resides in the supreme religious leader, Ayatollah Ali Khomeini, and his hardline clique.

As a result, Iran continues to engage in a range of activities that are not only injurious to the long-suffering public and nation of Iran but inimical to the interests of freedom-loving people elsewhere. Many of these activities are aimed at the United States and Israel, two nations viewed as enemies of, and obstacles to, the realization of Islamist ambitions to rule the oil-rich Middle East and exert influence worldwide.

Not content with inflicting its radical vision of Islam on its own people, the Iranian theocracy has spent most of the past three decades promoting like-minded organizations – notably Hezbollah, Hamas, Islamic Jihad and the Palestinian Authority – that employ terrorist techniques in the pursuit of shared objectives. For example, past attacks on U.S. facilities and personnel in Lebanon, the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia, Pan Am 103 and the first World Trade Center bombing are believed to have been aided and abetted by Iran. The bloodletting in Israel performed by Iranian-sponsored entities is the stuff of grisly daily news reports.

It’s laughable that anyone would take seriously the Iranian regime’s efforts to portray itself, after Sept. 11, as a member in good standing of President Bush’s anti-terror coalition. This is particularly preposterous in light of accumulating evidence that Tehran is actively en-

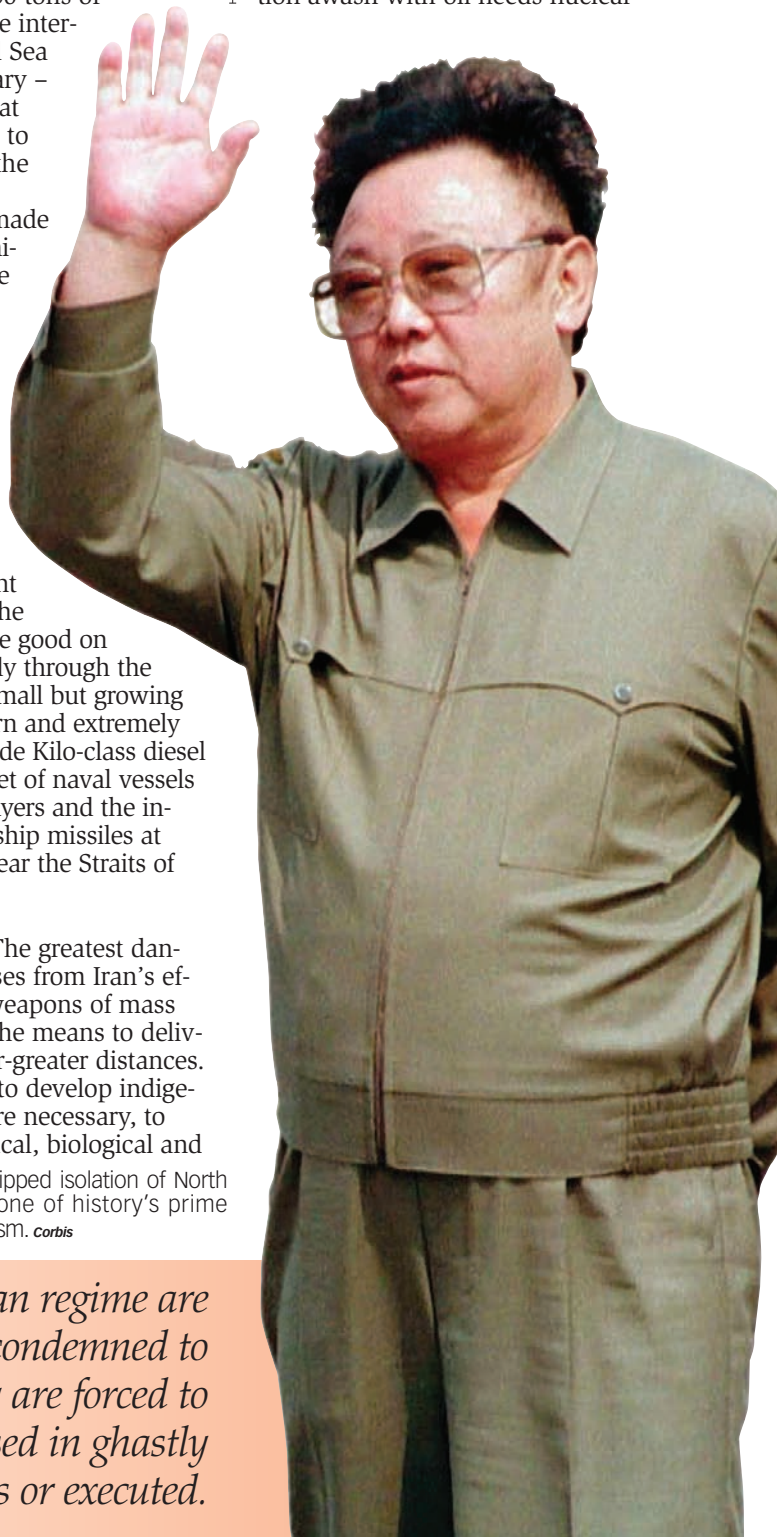
gaged in various efforts aimed at undermining the interim government of Afghanistan and undoing the successes achieved to date by Operation Enduring Freedom. The mullahs’ true colors also were displayed when 50 tons of Iranian arms were intercepted in the Red Sea by Israel in January – fresh evidence that Tehran continues to strive to destroy the state of Israel.

Iran also has made known its determination, should the need arise, to close the Persian Gulf to international shipping, cutting off much of the flow of oil from that region to the world. It has worked assiduously in recent years to acquire the capability to make good on this threat, notably through the acquisition of a small but growing number of modern and extremely quiet Russian-made Kilo-class diesel submarines, a fleet of naval vessels including mine-layers and the installation of anti-ship missiles at strategic points near the Straits of Hormuz.

Going Nuclear. The greatest danger, however, arises from Iran’s efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them over ever-greater distances. Iran has worked to develop indigenously and, where necessary, to import the chemical, biological and

Kim Jong Il’s iron-gripped isolation of North Korea represents one of history’s prime examples of despotism. *corbis*

nuclear technologies necessary to amass a deadly arsenal of WMDs. Russia and China have been particularly helpful with respect to Tehran’s ambition to “go nuclear,” under the absurd pretext that a nation awash with oil needs nuclear



Opponents of the North Korean regime are systematically suppressed, usually condemned to concentration camps where they are forced to perform slave labor, tortured, used in ghastly medical experiments or executed.



A Tehran University student protests for democracy in Iran in May 2000. Young Iranians strongly resent the government. *Corbis*

power-generation capabilities and is only interested in acquiring inherently dual-use technology and know-how for that purpose.

At the same time, Iran is making a serious effort to acquire long-range ballistic missiles. In 1998, Iran first tested its Shahab-3 missile, a derivative of the North Korean No Dong-1 that, with Russian improvements, has a range of up to 1,300 kilometers. While this program has subsequently experienced some developmental setbacks, America should not believe any softening has occurred in the mullahs' desire to be able to hold at risk not only Israel but Europe and, in due course, the "Great Satan" – the United States.

Iran also is developing longer-range missiles, including the Shahab-4, a derivative of the Soviet-era SS-4 with a range of 2,000 kilometers. The Shahab-5 is believed to be of an intercontinental range, potentially capable of targeting the continental United States. It's just a matter of time before the radical Islamist government of Iran is able to threaten not only the wholesale destruction of tiny Israel but mass devastation in our own country.

A Captive Country. If the government of Iran is repressive and determined to arm itself and its friends with deadly weapons of mass destruction, it looks tame compared to the communist regime of North Korea. Ever since Kim Il Sung seized power more than 50 years ago, the top half of the Korean peninsula has been subjected to some of the most comprehensively totalitarian despotism in human history.

Matters have, if anything, worsened following the ascension of Kim Jong Il, his son, in 1994. An eccentric and reclusive figure, the so-called "dear leader" and his small circle of loyal military and party apparatchiks maintain an iron grip on the nation and insulate it from virtually all external contacts. Political and social dissent are not tolerated; opponents of the regime are systematically

suppressed, usually condemned to concentration camps where they are forced to perform slave labor, tortured, used in ghastly medical experiments or executed.

Thanks to the application of hopelessly inefficient communist economic practices and a sustained drought, the largely agrarian North Korean economy is essentially bankrupt. Millions of people are believed to have been allowed to starve to death, despite vast infusions of food and medical aid from the United States and other countries. The magnitude of these horrors was recently documented by Dr. Norbert Vollersten, a German physician who spent more than a year in North Korea and was allowed an unprecedented opportunity to travel the country and bear witness to its suffering.

Vollersten's experiences bear out a stunning fact of life in North Korea: while the vast majority of the population experiences incalculable privation, the armed forces and Communist Party elite are entirely insulated from the suffering. Indeed, despite its economic woes, the North Korean regime maintains one of the largest militaries in the world, with more than 1 million men on active duty and 5 million more in reserve – more than one-fourth of the country's population. The CIA has estimated that a third of its GDP is allocated to military spending.

A sizeable proportion of that spending goes toward deploying most of North Korea's army, including vast quantities of artillery and theater missile forces, in a high state of readiness along the border with South Korea. Their offensive configuration within some 33 miles of South Korea's capital city, Seoul, has helped make the demilitarized zone di-

viding the two states the most heavily armed and potentially explosive border in the world.

Although North Korean conventional weapons are, for the most part, not as technologically advanced as those of South Korea – to say nothing of those in the hands of the 37,000

The North Korean regime maintains one of the largest militaries in the world, with more than 1 million men on active duty and 5 million more in reserve.

Americans deployed there – they are capable of inflicting horrific casualties on the Republic of Korea's civilian population and on U.S. and South Korean military units in range.

The existence of a heavily armed force under the absolute control of a Stalinist and unpredictable regime within striking distance of the capital of a friendly, democratic government and tens of thousands of American troops is sufficient cause for concern. North Korea's status as a member of the "axis of evil" is further assured by Pyongyang's growing WMD and missile capabilities and their sales to other rogue states.

A Growing Threat. Throughout the 1980s, North Korea pursued a nuclear-weapons program, harvesting enough plutonium from Soviet-supplied "research reactors" for up to six warheads. In theory, North Korea's work on the bomb was halted by a 1994 agreement signed with the United States, China and South Korea. Evidence indicates, however, that research is ongoing, probably in vast, as-yet-unlocated underground facilities throughout the country. If so, it's anybody's

We should be making clear that we stand with the people of these countries, just as we do with the people of Iraq, against regimes that tyrannize them and threaten us.

guess how much nuclear material has been weaponized.

North Korea also has continued work on its ballistic missile program. The CIA has concluded that North Korea's Taepo Dong-1 missile, flown over Japan in 1998, may already have the ability to deliver a light payload – such as chemical or biological weapons – to America. U.S. intelligence also believes the Taepo Dong-2, which is in development, could deliver a nuclear warhead to much of the continental United States.

Unfortunately, North Korea also is a major exporter of missile and WMD technology, essentially the only commodities it has on offer that can command hard currency and oil. Its clients include Iran, Syria, Iraq, Pakistan, Egypt, Algeria and Libya. Iran's Shahab-3 is based almost entirely on technology from the North Korean No-Dong missile.

Western diplomats have been titillated by past North Korean promises to refrain from further ballistic-missile testing and signals from Kim Jong Il that his government might be willing to give up its missile program altogether in exchange for concessionary space launches of

North Korean payloads. It would be a grave error, however, to assign much credibility to these proposals given North Korea's repeated breaches of previous international undertakings, the West's sorry record of rewarding communist regimes even when they do not adhere to their commitments, and the strategic and financial benefits that accrue to Pyongyang from its nuclear and missile programs.

The bottom line with respect to Iran and North Korea is that both regimes deserve to be considered evil. They qualify in light of what they are doing to their own people and in view of the activities in which they are engaged that are inimical to America's vital interests and those of its friends and allies. Worse yet, the danger they pose individually is less than the menace that arises from their bilateral collaboration and the assistance they give to other actively or potentially unfriendly states.

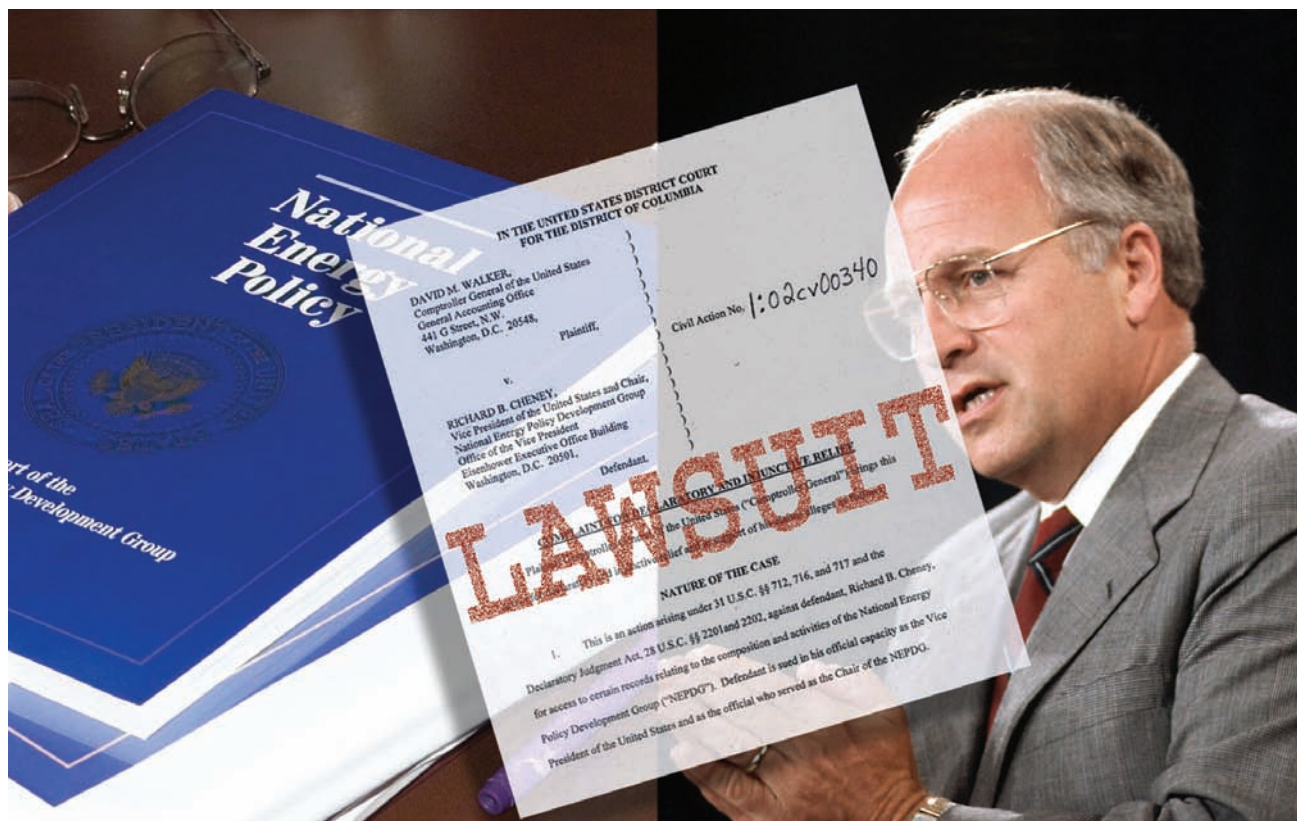
For these reasons, it behooves the United States and its allies to stop legitimating the governments of Iran and North Korea. We should, instead, be making clear that we stand with the people of these countries, just as we do with the people of Iraq, against regimes that tyrannize them and threaten us. We should do what we can in each case to bring about the swiftest possible replacement of those governments with ones that will respect and be representative of their people and no longer pose mortal peril to us. □

Frank J. Gaffney Jr. held senior positions in the Reagan administration's Defense Department. He currently is president of the Center for Security Policy in Washington.

Article design: Doug Rollison



German physician Norbert Vollersten campaigned on behalf of starving North Koreans and conducted a rally for human-rights activists in front of the Chinese embassy in Seoul, South Korea, last spring. Vollersten recently helped 25 North Koreans find refuge in South Korea. *corbis*



The GAO's assault on the executive branch

Why the vice president drew the line on a demand for documents.

BY JOHN C. EASTMAN

Sept. 1, 1939. Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany invades and defeats Poland. Within the year, he invades and secures the surrender of Norway, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and France. Most of western Europe is in his grasp. By August 1940, his sights turn, and the Battle of Britain begins. The official U.S.

policy is neutral. (As recently as November 1939, Congress had approved arms sales to the European belligerents on a cash-and-carry basis.) But soon into her defense, Great Britain is running out of money and materiel.

At that time, President Franklin D. Roosevelt knew America was not ready for war, either physically or psychologically. He also understood that sustaining British opposition to Hitler would be critical to the ultimate security of the United States. He and his top advisers secretly negotiated a lend-lease agreement with Great Britain, in which the United States would provide warships and aircraft in exchange for air and naval base leases on British possessions

in Newfoundland, British Guiana, Bermuda and other locations.

Undoubtedly, Roosevelt's policy was developed after consultation not only with top cabinet officers but with heads of industry as well. Had those negotiations and consultations been made public, it is likely the lend-lease arrangement would have been scuttled before it ever got off the ground. Roosevelt's ability to carry out his constitutional duties as commander in chief and fulfill his constitutional obligation to assure that the laws were faithfully executed would have been severely, perhaps permanently, undermined if those negotiations had been publicized.

Roosevelt was able to act because the authors of the Constitu-

Vice President Dick Cheney's refusal to turn over records from the National Energy Policy task force deserves the gratitude of future executive leaders of America. *AP/Corbis*

tion gave him powers independent of the Congress. The Office of the President was specifically designed so it could operate with the secrecy and dispatch necessary in circumstances such as those Roosevelt faced before the United States entered World War II. Article II of the Constitution authorizes the president to obtain written advice from his cabinet officers. Only one clause addresses making public executive-branch deliberations – a clause requiring the president to provide to Congress, “from time to time,” information on the state of the union. Quite obviously, the principle at stake here is the ability of the chief executive to perform his constitutional obligations without obstructive interference from another branch. Had that ability not been exercised following 1940, the result may have been disastrous.

A New Era. Fast forward to 2001. California is in the middle of an energy crisis that is threatening to undermine the entire American economy. U.S. reliance on foreign oil has already involved it in a war in the Middle East, and the problems that precipitated that war have only grown worse. Shortly after taking office, President Bush creates an energy task force – the National Energy Policy Development Group – to produce recommendations regarding the future of U.S. energy policy.

Vice President Dick Cheney is appointed to head the task force, whose members also include the secretaries of Energy, Interior, Agriculture, Transportation and Commerce, along with the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the director of the Office of Management and Budget. Following a tradition that dates back to the constitutional convention of 1787, the group meets behind closed doors so deliberations can be candid, therefore making the recommendations as comprehensive as possible. Nothing the task force does car-

“It is simply beyond comprehension to permit such an intrusion by unelected agents acting on orders from a couple members of Congress.”

ries with it the force of law. Its mission, as envisioned by Article II of the Constitution, is simply to provide advice and recommendations to the president.

In stark contrast to the secrecy Roosevelt was granted in his day, a federal Freedom-of-Information-Act lawsuit is filed against the Department of Energy even before the task force issues its final report in May 2001. The suit seeks access to documents generated during the task force's deliberations. A federal district court orders the Department of Energy to release the requested documents. However, in an aspect of the court's order largely overlooked by major media, the decision applies only to “non-exempt records” – meaning the Department of Energy simply has to provide an index of withheld records that meet exemption criteria. One key exemption contained in the Freedom of Information Act is that materials generated in a deliberative process

need not be made public. That statutory exemption is probably compelled by the Constitution because, without it, any special-interest group – not just Congress – could unduly interfere with the president's constitutional duties.

Undoubtedly there will be challenges to the Department of Energy's anticipated use of the deliberative-process exemption, but whatever that outcome might be, the parallel lawsuit filed in February by the General Accounting Office against Cheney is even more troubling.

Power Struggle. Like the president, the vice president is a constitutionally elected officer in his own right. The director of the GAO is not elected, and the agency as a whole is simply an arm of Congress. It would be a constitutionally troubling violation of the separation of powers if Congress itself demanded access to executive-branch deliberations. But it is simply beyond comprehension to permit such an intrusion by unelected agents acting on orders from a couple members of Congress.

Many members of Congress have grown arrogant in their assertions of individual power. For example, witness the extraordinary claims by individual senators who think they have the constitutional



President Franklin D. Roosevelt's foreign policy at the dawn of World War II was shaped, in part, by secret consultations with industrial leaders. Catastrophe would have been the result if those consultations had been made public. *AP*



President Bush candidly discussed his national energy policy in a well-covered public Cabinet meeting in May 2001. But the General Accounting Office, pressed into action by two Democ-

rats in the House, soon demanded to know who helped formulate that policy and what was said. That, Vice President Dick Cheney insists, was going too far. **AP**

right to blackball presidential nominees to the judiciary, even while acknowledging that the nominees would be confirmed by large majorities if a Senate vote were to be held. Unlike the president and vice president, members of Congress have no constitutional power to act unilaterally. Their constitutional power exists only as members of a legislative body, and the body acts only through the formal mechanisms of bicameralism and presentment – that is, passing laws by majority vote in both houses of Congress and presenting them to the president for signature – or later voting to override if the president chooses to veto.

The dangers inherent in the GAO's lawsuit against Cheney should be obvious. The demands sought to intrude into the inner sanctum of executive-branch deliberations. Initiated by two House Democrats, those demands intensified after Enron collapsed and the opportunity arose to score political points. Just imagine the outcry if the tables were turned. What if the attorney general filed suit asking for a list of every meeting Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., has held with other members of Congress or leaders of special-interest groups to discuss strategies to oppose the president's judicial nominations? However improper

Leahy's foot-dragging might be, intrusion by the executive branch into the legislature's business would be even more troubling.

More troubling still is the way in which the GAO lawsuit threatens to undermine, rather than enhance, accountability in the executive branch. The framers of our Constitution settled on a unitary executive in order to enhance accountability. Delegates to the constitutional convention debated whether to simply permit the president to obtain advice from his department heads or whether he should have a permanent council of advisers, as it is in England. James Iredell, a member of the constitutional convention and a leading proponent of its ratification in the North Carolina ratifying convention, argued that the mechanism adopted in the Constitution was preferable to a formal advisory council. Such a council, he argued, would have pernicious consequences, for the president would be naturally inclined to say, "You know my council are men of integrity and ability; I could not act against their opinions, though I confess my own was contrary to theirs," and thereby avoid responsibility for his own actions, undermining the most effective check on the president's power.

Forcing the energy task force's deliberations into the public would have the same pernicious conse-

quences. As it stands now, the policies proposed to Congress are the president's, not the task force's, or those of its individual members or even those of the industry and environmental leaders whose opinions were sought. As a result, the president alone would bear responsibility for them. If we expose the internal deliberations to public view, the president would be in the same position as James Iredell's hypothetical president – able to say he had accepted the advice of his counselors against his better judgment and thereby avoid accountability. We would end up with either a completely unaccountable or a completely crippled government, or perhaps both.

The stakes may not be as high for the energy task force's deliberations as they were for Roosevelt's lend-lease deliberations, but principles lost when the stakes are low are just as certainly unavailable when the stakes are again high. Cheney recognizes the importance of those principles. We can only hope the courts recognize it, too. □

John C. Eastman is a professor of constitutional law at Chapman University School of Law and director of the Claremont Institute Center for Constitutional Jurisprudence in California.

Article design: Doug Rollison

All Bears On Deck



Shown actual size of 4½" high

84613-CSD

A Heartwarming Tribute to the U.S. Navy

From sea to shining sea, this courageous sailor serves his country with pride and honor. And when it comes to protecting our sweet land of liberty, no task is too small and no sacrifice is too great. So when duty calls, this defender of freedom is ready to ship out at a moment's notice!

Now, The Hamilton Collection presents "All Bears On Deck," a sea-worthy teddy who's helping to ensure liberty and justice for all. Whether he's sailing the high seas or defending America's honor and freedom, this brave bear is prepared for any challenge. Standing at attention, he proudly salutes the Stars and Stripes and all that it stands for!

You'll love all the heartwarming touches, from this proud teddy's handsome sailor hat to his crisp, white uniform blowing in the sea breeze. And he's sure to tug at your heartstrings with his courageous expression beaming with patriotic pride.

As always, our *365-Day Guarantee* unconditionally assures your satisfaction. So order now and bring this handsome sailor home today!

collectiblestoday.com

Home of The Hamilton Collection and All Things Collectible

©2002 HC. All Rights Reserved. Neither the United States Navy nor any other component of the Department of Defense has approved, endorsed or authorized this product for promotion, or service, or activity.

The Hamilton Collection

9204 Center For The Arts Drive, Niles, IL 60714-1300

Please Respond Promptly

Please accept my order for "All Bears On Deck" for the issue price of \$19.95*. I need send **no money now**. I will be billed with shipment.

Limit one per collector.

Signature _____

Ms./Mrs./Mr. _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____

84613-E94901

*Add \$4.99 for shipping and handling. Deliveries to FL and IL will be billed appropriate sales tax. All orders must be signed and are subject to credit approval. Edition limited to 295 casting days.

Anything but

*Legion College delivers more than
a classroom education in leadership.*

BY JEFF STOFFER

Here's the situation: the commander is burned out, and the adjutant has been placed in a nursing home. The chaplain won the lottery and may never return from the coast. All other officers have either dropped out or dropped dead.

This American Legion post – in a rapidly growing city with more than 1,000 eligible veterans of various eras and interests – has serious problems. Age is up. Membership is down. The flagpole hasn't been painted in 30 years. Youth programs aren't even considered while longtime members do little more than swap stories from yesteryear and pray the mail produces enough renewals to keep the lights on.

And you – yes, *you* – have suddenly been asked to lead. What are you going to do about it?

Welcome to "Post X, Anywhere, USA," a worst-case composite of challenges faced by The American Legion and countless other volunteer organizations around the country that constantly fight to stay vital in their communities.

Last fall at Legion College in Indianapolis, the authentic problems of the

fictitious Post X created a springboard for ideas among 44 emerging leaders in the world's largest veterans' organization. Teams of Legion College students pooled their energies and experiences for a synergistic weeklong journey that, in the end, produced a half-dozen unique proposals to revive the ailing post.

Some participants could offer firsthand solutions about solving the problems of Post X. For those students, the scenario was all too familiar.

Learning from Each Other. "Post X was my post," said Bob Ouellette, the salt-and-pepper-bearded 39-year-old commander of Daniel-Jeffers Post 247 in Poolesville, Md.

A calm, confident former Army bomb specialist, Ouellette proudly describes himself as the "biggest purveyor of patriotism in Poolesville ... I think back to when I

"This is a chance to do something not a lot of people get to do. It's intense, but it's a really good way to get to know what other posts are doing – and for The American Legion to cultivate young leaders."

– Barry Scharbrough, Springfield, Va.



was a kid, and I had a picture of myself in an Army uniform in front of an American flag. I used to go out and do my own flag-raising ceremonies in my yard. From a young age, growing up, realizing the war in Vietnam was on, I was very patriotic."

Ouellette spent 17 years in the Army before an injury forced him to retire and now, with a day job as a computer-security contractor for the State Department, he channels his patriotism into The American Legion and its programs.

When Ouellette joined the Legion in the mid-1990s, Post 247 had only 14 members, no post home and scant leadership. Just like Post X, it was teetering on the brink of extinction.

But since then, membership has grown to more than 130, plus a new Auxiliary unit and a squadron of the Sons of The American Legion. What happened? Ouellette said it



Past National Commander Butch Miller, chancellor of Legion College, told the class of 2001 "we're not sending you home to run a better bingo program."
James V. Carroll

Academic

was all a matter of showing the people in his community what The American Legion does and can do, and always asking eligible veterans to join.

"The post now stays active and visible," said Ouellette, whose blue Legion cap is covered with Ray's Aces pins, each representing five new members recruited during Ray Smith's year as national commander. "We've generated enthusiasm through our programs – a color guard, a patriotic prayer service, and we sent two kids to Boys State last year. We sponsored a Halloween dance for Special Olympians, and we're

working on a high-school oratorical contest. We may not have a post home yet, but you see us out serving in our community. That's our main goal."

With everything going so well at Post 247, who needs Legion College?

Ouellette says he does. And so does his post.

"Legion College provides a stronger foundation for us, a resolve that our post will not go back to the point where it was before," he said.

Barry Scharbrough of Springfield, Va., adds that being accepted for Legion College is a privi-

lege in itself. "This is a chance to do something not a lot of people get to do," he said. "It's intense, but it's a really good way to get to know what other posts are doing – and for The American Legion to cultivate young leaders. It's nice to be recognized."

"I probably learned as much from my fellow students as I did from those teaching the courses," said Ron Martin of Morocco, Ind. "It was a lot of hours, but it was also a lot of fun."

A Multi-Dimensional Week. The Post-X project was just one assignment in a much larger syllabus.

During the week, participants took in a two-day leadership seminar from Pete Land, a national management consultant. They went to the 38th Division National Guard Headquarters and promoted Legion programs to the troops. Participants coordinated with military recruiters on a college campus and delivered U.S. Flags to patients in a VA hospital. Others talked with high-school students about the Legion and the honorable character of military service. Coming from as far away as Hawaii and Germany to attend the training program, Legion College participants also paid tribute to a 105-year-old World War I veteran, as well as their respects to those now fighting in the war on terrorism.

It was quite a week.

"We're not sending you home to run a better bingo program," said Past National Commander Butch Miller, who served as the 2001 Legion College chancellor. "The American Legion is serious business. We hope that you will go out and make history, not become history."

Service First. Before delivering his leadership seminar, Pete Land uttered a candid remark from the speaker's podium in the National Executive Committee room: "I had heard about The American Legion on the fringes, but to be honest, until now I didn't realize its reach." Coming from an Air Force retiree and a veteran of 137



Rudy Schwartz Mejia Jr. of California, a former POW and Army Ranger who fought in Somalia, brought his own autographed flag to remind Legion College students of the soldiers whose whereabouts remain unknown. *James V. Carroll*

combat missions in the Vietnam War, his words hung in the air for a moment or two. Why didn't he realize the Legion's reach?

"The Legion's reach" became an important lesson of the week, taught through staff presentations on the organization's array of programs, divisions and services. "With all the programs the Legion has, I'll bet there's not one person in this room who can name them all," said Jack Querfeld, national director of the Legion's Internal Affairs division.

As the week unfolded, National Headquarters staff members stepped up to the microphone and talked about the programs they run. The class listened to updates on the Children's Miracle Network, the Family Support Network, the Citizens Flag Alliance, Sept. 11 Memorial Scholarships, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation efforts, the Reconnect program and youth competitions. They also heard about internal operations like public relations, membership, resolution writing, legal issues, marketing, and the ways in which *The*

American Legion Magazine and *Dispatch* fit into the organization's mission.

"You develop good programs that serve the community and you will get membership growth," said Marty Justis, director of the national Americanism, Children & Youth divisions. "Service programs are the window on our organization. Service first, membership second."

Sudden Impact. Robert Keaveny of Nampa, Idaho, survived the 1983 suicide-truck bombing in Beirut that claimed the lives of 241 other U.S. Marines. He received the Purple Heart for injuries he sustained that day. At Legion College, he discovered how it felt to be on the giving end when he helped deliver the coveted medal to 105-year-old Gus Streeter of Indianapolis. Streeter treated his own wounds on a battlefield in France in 1917 and never collected a Purple Heart for it.

Keaveny had been following Streeter's story in the national news. "I was going to meet him if I had to miss class to do it," Keaveny said. "I've never met a World War I veteran before. I almost cried when I introduced myself to him. He shook my hand and said, 'God bless you.' I needed something substantial to take home from Legion College, and this was it."

Randy Voll of Pardeeville, Wis., had to step away from Legion College briefly during the week to have an injured ankle examined. While waiting to see a doctor at Roudebush VA Medical Center in Indianapolis, he met an elderly veteran whose legs were going to be amputated. Voll gave the man some words of encouragement and a national commander's pin. "That brought a smile to his face," Voll said.

It also triggered an idea. Back at Legion College, they were going to be raffling U.S. Flag sets – difficult to come by two months after the attacks of Sept. 11. Voll suggested the class donate the flag sets to terminally ill patients at the VA hospital instead. "I did not want this to be a PR stunt," he said. "I spoke

2003 College selection process under way

Now in its fourth year of resurrection after a nearly half-century sabbatical, the National American Legion College is again an annual event, scheduled for the week before Veterans Day. The 2002 class will gather in Indianapolis Nov. 3 to 8.

The training program offers a combination of small-group workshops, lectures and practical exercises. Students are trained in leadership, sales, marketing, communication and fund-raising.

Applications must first be submitted to

the department, preferably accompanied by a letter of recommendation from the post commander and other community

leaders. A department can nominate more than one candidate for the college. Selection is made by a panel of past national commanders. Class size is limited to no more than 50. **The deadline to submit an application is**

July 15. Candidates must complete The American Legion Extension Institute exam prior to application.

FOR MORE INFO

Contact Bill Sloan in the Internal Affairs division at National Headquarters:

(317) 630-1321

Now Available! The 1910 Model T Ford used by New York's Finest!

N.Y.P.D. PADDY WAGON

ONLY
\$10



Scale 1:32 • 5" long

Hood Lifts to View Engine

The 1910 Police Paddy Wagon Used By New York's Finest—

This was the special vehicle to transport criminals, carry supplies and especially for raids. Imagine the police rounding up the "bad guys" and carting them off to the "hoosegow" as they looked out the windows of the double doors in back. The intricate details will amaze you! You can lift the bifold hood cover that allows you to see what made that metal dynamo run; the rubber, spoked wheels, the movable handcrank, the double windshield.

Reserve Your 1910 Ford Paddy Wagon on the Reservation Form Shown Here. You will be charged Only \$10 for the 1910 Ford Paddy Wagon in 1:32 scale, 5" long. As a companion piece, you may also reserve the 1910 Fire Wagon for an additional \$10. If you do not believe that each die-cast collectible Ford replica is worth many times the price, your money will be immediately returned less p&h.

ALSO AVAILABLE

1910 FIRE WAGON

**Available Nowhere Else At This
Special Direct-From-The-Mint Price—**

Authentic die-cast replicas normally sell for as much as \$29.98 to \$39.98. But for this special release we are making these collector's treasure-pieces available at the special introductory sale price of only \$10 each. Each is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity, and satisfaction is fully guaranteed.

FOR MORE COLLECTIBLE CARS VISIT US AT:

www.motormint.com

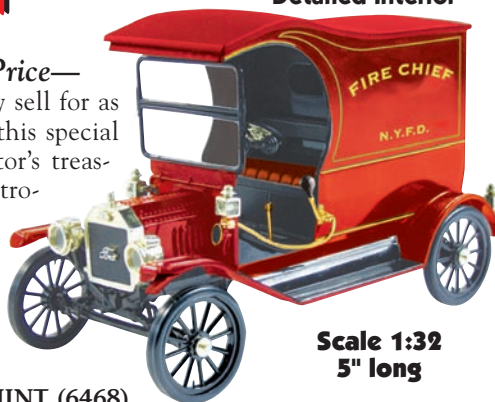
For faster service call: 888-215-MINT (6468)



Back Doors Open



Detailed Interior



Scale 1:32
5" long

CALL 888-215-MINT (6468)

© 2002 National Motor Museum Mint™, 1 Eversley Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06851

NATIONAL MOTOR MUSEUM MINT, Dept. NYPC-0015
1 Eversley Ave, Norwalk, CT 06851-5844

☐ One Vehicle **Only \$10** (valued at \$29.98 each)

☐ Paddy Wagon ☐ Fire Wagon

☐ Set of both models **only \$20**

☐ **BEST OFFER: Two sets only \$40**

Add **\$5.00 p&h** no matter what you order

Enclosed is \$_____ check or money order.

(CT residents please add 6% Sales Tax)

OR Charge it: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Acct# _____ Exp. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

"I probably learned as much from my fellow students as I did from those teaching the courses."

— Ron Martin, Morocco, Ind.

with the person in charge of VA member benefits, and she took me up to the cardiac ward. We gave three away. We went to the oncology ward and gave two more away. These two did not have family that visits. Both were going to die in the hospital. All the patients perked up and became responsive. All these guys kept thanking us.

"Something really hit me at Legion College," Voll said. "I came out feeling like an individual who could really have an impact. We, as veterans, have to take care of ourselves."

Thom Guthrie of Falls Church, Va., a veteran of both the Navy and the Coast Guard, found out the kind of impact a Legionnaire can make. Early in the week, Guthrie stood up in the NEC Room and moved that the Legion College Class of 2001 sponsor a Gold Star Banner initiative to recognize U.S. families whose loved ones are killed in the war on terrorism. The program would be an extension of the Blue Star Banner program for families of those deployed to fight the war.

Guthrie's suggestion led to a volley of e-mails between Indianapolis, the Washington American Legion office and the Pentagon. Two days later, Legion College facilitator Bill Sloan announced that the Office of the Secretary of Defense was delighted about the idea. A list of contact people from each branch of the service was forwarded to the Legion's national headquarters for immediate action.

"I didn't do it," Guthrie said. "We did it. By saying it here at the national headquarters of The American Legion we got the ears of the DoD. That's the important part." Copies of the e-mail exchange were handed out for the



Legion College participant David Stamper of Booneville, Ky., assists World War I veteran Gus Streeter during Streeter's long-awaited Purple Heart ceremony.

James V. Carroll

whole class. to see for themselves what Miller said they should do: make history, not become it.

The Leader's Duty. Ideas to revitalize Post X filled the NEC Room in the final days of Legion College. Among the plans was a "Days of Infamy Remembered" ceremony that would center on the anniversary of Pearl Harbor and have guest speakers, a National Guard fly-over and a ceremonial restoration of the flagpole. One group envisioned a "Support America" fair to spotlight Legion partnerships with the Red Cross Bloodmobile, the Boy Scouts and corporate sponsors. A patriotic farewell gathering for troops heading off to war was suggested along with a 10K walkathon for the Children's Miracle Network. Ouellette's team produced a high-tech power-point presentation that laid out plans for a "Patriots Day" featuring a children's carnival, exhibits of National Guard equipment and booths to provide information on the gamut of Legion programs.

Everything that happened during the week – in the field, in the NEC room, around conference tables and even in the hotel lounge – contributed to the final plans for Post X. But the final product was

not nearly as important in Legion College as was the process and the teamwork it took to achieve it.

Emphasized by Land during his seminar and reiterated throughout the week was the notion that good leaders don't go home and simply take over. Instead, they give confidence and opportunity to others who, in turn, become leaders themselves. To amplify that point, Land paraphrased a Chinese saying: "The leader is great who, when the mission is accomplished, the people say they did this themselves."

It's not easy. "There's over 300 definitions of leadership, which means we haven't defined it yet," Land said. "Leadership is not a label. It's a process. It exists in the minds of the followers. When you go

back to your organization, remember people care about only one thing: can you lead them well?"

In his commencement address, National Commander Richard J. Santos told Legion College graduates that especially after Sept. 11 America is craving patriotic programs and leadership from veterans. To satisfy that craving, eligible nonmembers need to know the organization's reach.

"Forget the age," Santos said. "Forget the gender. As Americans struggle with this war, we simply have to extend the invitation. And once they are in, use your leadership skills. Let each member know how he or she is vital. Involve them. Don't leave them in a corner. Give them a chance to participate and a chance to lead. You are all special, but by working together, you can be spectacular."

Such is the definition of "synergy" – the combined efforts of many creating a whole greater than the sum of its parts. It just takes leadership and a willingness to keep learning. That's what it takes to graduate from Legion College. □

Jeff Stoffer is managing editor of The American Legion Magazine.

Article design: Holly K. Soria

**HANDCRAFTED
IN AMERICA
FINE MILITARY JEWELRY**

**TO HONOR
U.S. VETERANS
SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY**

New for Member Families

EXCLUSIVE UNITED STATES MILITARY EMBLEMS OF GOLD Commemorative Birthstone Rings

Personalized with your Birthstones, initials and year dates of Service



Personalized with your birthstones
initials and year dates of Service



AVAILABLE ONLY TO VETERANS AND SERVICEMEN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, MARINES AND COAST GUARD

We proudly present our Official United States Military Gold Emblem Rings set with 8 personal birthstones to honor those who served our Country!

Your choice of Service Emblems sculptured in solid 10 Karat Gold. Boldly displayed on genuine polished Black Onyx. Set atop an exclusive "Pillars of Strength" Ring design crafted of Solid Sterling silver richly finished in 22 Karat Gold.

Your ring will be engraved with your initials and years of service and set with your choice of birthstones. A personal heirloom to treasure for a lifetime.

Thank you priced at a remarkably low \$199*. An affordable payment plan is available. If not satisfied, you may return your ring within 30 days for replacement or refund—no questions asked. So, order yours today! You have earned the right to wear this ring.

**You may call toll free to order:
1-800-255-3048**

Monday - Friday from 9am - 5pm EST

These rings are not sold in stores.

NOTE: A custom ring sizer will be sent to you before shipment to assure your correct fit. *Diamond Birthstone rings are \$295**

JAN GARNET	FEB AMETHYST	MARCH AQUAMARINE	APRIL DIAMOND	MAY EMERALD	JUNE PEARL
JULY RUBY	AUGUST PERIDOT	SEP SAPPHIRE	OCT OPAL	NOV CITRINE	DEC TURQUOISE

**Mail to: Veterans Commemoratives Gold Emblem Ring
1250 Easton Road, Suite 290, Horsham, PA 19044**

☐ **YES.** I wish to order the following Exclusive Military Gold Emblem Ring(s) set with my birthstones. Check (✓) choices:

Army ☐ Navy ☐ Air Force ☐
Marine ☐ Coast Guard ☐

Birthstone/Month (1) _____ (See Chart above)

My Initials (3) _____ Service Yrs: _____ to _____

I need send no money now. Bill me in four monthly installments of \$49.75* each, with the first payment due prior to shipment. A custom ring sizer will be sent before shipment to assure my correct fit.

And my satisfaction is completely guaranteed.

☐ Shipping Address (We CANNOT ship to P.O. Boxes)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

BRSRIN ALM 07/02

* Diamonds (April birthstones) add \$24.00 per payment

* Plus \$9.95 for engraving, shipping, and handling.

PA residents add 6% sales tax.

© 2002 ICM



James V. Carroll

A Press for Diversity

*Years of biased reporting on race, gay rights
and other sensational issues have caused
Americans to mistrust the media.*

BY WILLIAM MCGOWAN

In the weeks and months following Sept. 11, American news organizations aggressively reported on what they called a spasm of “anti-Muslim fervor.” This, the media said, had resulted

in “an explosion of hate crimes” against scapegoated Muslims, Arabs and South Asians.

One such case involved Ahmad Saad Nasim, a student at Arizona State University. On Sept. 13, Nasim claimed to have been attacked by a gang of white

assailants who screamed, “Die, Muslim, die!” The claim was given considerable state and national media coverage and resulted in more than 50 fearful Muslim students leaving the ASU campus. Another case involved a young Somali man in Washington state

who was found bludgeoned and beaten to death beneath a bridge in a rural county. The incident automatically set off accusations from rights organizations that this too was a crime of bias.

In reality, though, the case of Ahmad Saad Nasim was a classic case of crying wolf. When police questioned him after a second alleged attack – this time, he was found bound and gagged in a university library – he confessed to having fabricated the first assault. He admitted to staging the library incident as well, although this confession did not receive anywhere near the attention the original “hate” attack received. As for the unfortunate death of the Somali immigrant, this alleged victim of hateful Americans was actually beaten to death by fellow Somalis when after a night of drinking, he urinated on the floor of a drug dealer’s house and tried to walk out with a pocketful of the dealer’s compact discs.

As it stands now, police see no evidence that many of the crimes associated with the “hate wave” were part of a post-Sept. 11 backlash against people from the Middle East. *The Washington Post* only recently admitted that investigators say this rash of retaliatory murders across the country is “an urban myth driven by sensational media reports and activists seeking some explanation for senseless violence.” Indeed, although activists and press lackeys still bandy about all sorts of statistics to bolster their claims of hate all over America, only one death officially has been labeled a hate crime: a Sikh mistaken for Arab.

The media’s erroneous reporting on the wave of anti-Muslim fervor is only the most recent example of journalistic misrepresentation – misrepresentation verging on fraud – involving sensitive national issues bound up with our changing demography and with our changing cultural tides. A chief reason Americans dislike the media is the way they

report on race, immigration, gay rights, feminism and affirmative action. Obsessed by a crusade to increase diversity in its own ranks, the press has projected that worthy goal onto its reporting of diversity-related issues. For the sake of political correctness, this has seriously warped news coverage and news analysis which ought to be as candid, unbiased and complete as possible, especially at this crossroads moment in our nation’s history. Americans dislike the media because the media have been an unreliable, at times insulting, guide to current events.

The reasons behind this egregious miscoverage, and hence the public’s antipathy, are various. But a quick examination shows a media at odds with most of mainstream American society and how it thinks, lives and worships.

A Step Backward. On race, the journalistic script downplays the value of integration. It also affirms a sense of cultural relativism and implicit double standards, making news organizations reluctant to explore the more troubling realities of the black underclass: illegitimacy, welfare dependency, crime, drugs and other manifestations of antisocial behavior. Additionally, the script on race also mutes reporting on unflattering incidents of black racism and black anti-Semitism, minimizing or ignoring altogether the fact that blacks are many times more likely to commit violent crimes against whites than the reverse.

In a brutal 1997 incident, three white teen-agers from a rural area ended up in a black neighborhood in Flint, Mich., and were seized by a gang of black youths. One of the boys

was shot to death; the girl was raped. A minor one-day news story, the incident received scant national attention. In 1996, though, when it appeared that white Special Forces soldiers at Fort Bragg, N.C., might be painting swastikas on the doors of black soldiers, the story grabbed banner headlines and received broad network attention. The story faded only when it was revealed that the culprit was a black soldier.

Though the facts behind the 1996 wave of arson attacks on black churches in the South were complicated, news organizations were quick to declare that Mississippi was burning once again. When contradictory information emerged in isolated corrective reporting, newspapers, TV and news magazines did not devote the space or attention they should have, leaving behind the impression that America had not progressed from the racism of 1963.

The press is fixated on the idea of rampant and irredeemable institutional white racism, particularly in the criminal-justice system, where the racism of white police is assumed and facts to the contrary are ignored.

Take the alarmist reporting in the wake of the 1999 Amadou Diallo shooting in New York. *The New York Times* tried to paint a picture of racist police posing a greater threat than criminals to minority citizens. Although available facts suggested the police were more restrained than in recent history, the *Times* painted a picture of white police out of control, much to the detriment of racial harmony and effective police protection of the minority citizens upon whose behalf the *Times* was crusading.

Obsessed by a crusade to increase diversity in its own ranks, the press has projected that worthy goal onto its reporting of diversity-related issues.

Rose-Colored Glasses. On immigration, journalists tend to embrace a highly romantic and historically distorted script that assumes immigration to be an unqualified blessing. The press skirts key questions, such as “How many immigrants are good for the country?” and “How should they fit in?” When the press poses such questions, it does so in only the most superficial fashion, airbrushing realities that might encourage a curbing of enthusiasm.

News organizations have been particularly remiss on reporting problems associated with the chaos of the immigration system itself, especially the implications for national security. Although the holes and weaknesses in the immigration system that the hijackers exploited Sept. 11 have been obvious to immigration reformers for years, journalists do not assign these massive problems any priority.

To be fair, news organizations have done a lot of catch-up reporting since Sept. 11, exploring our immigration system’s weaknesses. But a politically correct script survives in the form of hypersensitivity and solicitude toward Muslims and Arabs in America, immigrants and visitors alike. This treatment is particularly sharp when it comes to the question of loyalty and to the issue of supposed American xenophobia.

In October, *The New York Times* announced that a U.S. Army Muslim chaplain had been counseling Muslim soldiers that it was indeed morally right for them to fight and kill fellow Muslims from hostile nations. But the story

neglected to report Muslim servicemen’s resistance to fighting fellow Muslims. It failed to examine just how demoralizing and divisive the issue has been for quite some time, particularly in units where Muslims serve in any numbers and where many commanders worry about ethnic insubordination. One Army Ranger chaplain says units with high percentages of Muslims have been so deeply polarized, Muslims and non-Muslims line up on different sides of the barracks.

In a week when it could have done investigative reporting about the manhunt for 100 terrorist suspects the FBI couldn’t locate, or about the issues associated with detainees who would not cooperate, the Oct. 21 *New York Times Magazine* preferred to run a 3,000-word piece about the “Kafkaesque” ordeal of a “soulful”-eyed Saudi radiologist in Texas. The doctor had spent 13 days in federal detention before being released with no charges; it was an opportunity for the *Times* writer to bash America. The radiologist’s detention, the Texas ACLU director told the writer, “makes those of us Arabs and Muslims who are American think, ‘Are we living in a country as dirty as the ones we ran from?’”

The media also has drawn an absurd parallel between the effort of law enforcement to track down terrorists and the internment of Japanese citizens during World War II. Detaining non-citizen Middle East visitors, many of whom are in violation of visa status, is a far cry from the ugly act of putting Asian citizens away for the duration.

The Gay Gauntlet. In the coverage of gay rights, the media has a decided partisan edge. Whether the issue is the integration of gays in the military, AIDS, gay marriage or gay adoption, the press sides with gay and lesbian interest groups and trims its reporting to filter out facts that might undercut the cause. Although it prides itself on understanding nontraditional cultures, such as that of gays, American journalism shows far less readiness or ability to extend respect to, or curiosity about, traditional cultures like those of the military and the church.

The script on gays also tends to depict any objections to gay causes – however well-grounded in constitutional, moral or institutional traditions – as outright bigotry. “A lot of gay activists think that any point of view different from theirs is not only wrong, but so illegitimate and beneath contempt that it doesn’t even deserve to be considered,” notes Jeff Jacoby of *The Boston Globe*, who has run afoul of gay newsroom monitors. “I know up front that if I want to write about this topic, I have to be prepared to run a gauntlet and to jump a lot of hurdles – not among the readers who I think mostly agree with me, but right here in the newsroom.”

One example of skewed reporting concerns coverage of gays in the military. In 1993, when gay-rights activists marched in Washington, many all-American boys and girls next door were in attendance. The march also included many foul-mouthed lesbian comedians, flamboyant drag queens and leather-clad S&M devotees. Yet these groups weren’t seen in newspapers the next day. Their presence was excised from coverage.

Another instance of biased coverage was a 1998 *New York Times* cover story profiling an anonymous, closeted gay Marine captain who desired early retirement because he found the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy too confining. This, the writer asserted, represented a waste of military talent and a waste of expensive training, all because gays could not serve

Although it prides itself on understanding nontraditional cultures, such as that of gays, American journalism shows far less readiness or ability to extend respect to, or curiosity about, traditional cultures like those of the military and the church.

Star Spangled 'Vette®



Replica is approx.
9.75" long

Patriotism revs into high gear in a brilliant 1:18th scale die-cast replica of America's Sports Car!

The Chevrolet Corvette® is an American legend — the dream of every driver with a hunger for freedom and a passion for the open road. No car has ever captured the driving energy and wide-eyed confidence of America with more style. Wherever it's seen heads turn, pulses race, and hearts pound — and the hard-charging thrill grows stronger every day!

Now, we proudly present a precision, die-cast metal replica of a classic 1967 Corvette® Stingray that truly reflects the

patriotic spirit of our time! Handcrafted in 1:18 scale by Ertl® and hand painted in red, white and blue of our nation's flag, this Hamilton Authenticated exclusive is a must-have for any Corvette lover! Complete with certificate of authenticity.

Order today!

- Premiering at only \$69.90*
- 365 Day Guarantee. The Best in the Business.
- Ertl®, #1 in Die-cast for over 50 years



RESERVATION FORM

☐ **YES!** Please send my "Stars and Stripes," 1967 Corvette® die-cast replica. I need **SEND NO MONEY NOW.** I will pay for my replica in two monthly installments of \$34.95 each, the first to be billed just prior to shipment. **My satisfaction is completely guaranteed.**

365 Day Guarantee. The Best in the Business.

* Plus \$6.95 for shipping & handling. Illinois residents add state sales tax. Please allow 4-6 weeks for shipment.

Chevrolet, The Bow Tie Emblem, Corvette, Vette, Corvette Emblems and Body designs are trademarks of Chevrolet Motor Div. and General Motors Corporation & used under license to Racing Champions, Inc.



collectiblestoday.com



Exclusive edition only available from

H Hamilton Authenticated
9202 Center for the Arts Drive • Niles, IL 60714

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

98059-CC2

98059-E94901

openly. The captain was said to be a “straight arrow” – a Marine first and a gay man second. In fact, he was a prude. The little he knew about the gay sexual underworld he found empty. Two weeks later, however, the officer was brought out by a national gay publication, *The Advocate*, which revealed that far from being a straight arrow, the captain had a side career moonlighting as a gay porn star.

Still more skewed coverage can be found in the disparate treatment given to two gay-related murders. In 1998, Matthew Shepard – a young gay man in Wyoming – was brutally attacked by two homophobic thugs. He was tied to a fencepost in subfreezing temperatures and left to die. The story was quite properly a nationwide media sensation. But not long after, in 1999, 13-year-old Jesse Dirkhising was sadistically raped for hours and left to die by a gay couple who lived next door to the boy and his single mother. The news organizations that spread the Shepard story so vigorously – *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, CNN, ABC CBS and NBC – ignored the second story entirely.

The Feminist Blinders. Feminism is another issue where reporting is loaded with partisanship. Case in point: coverage of the effort to integrate women into high-profile combat positions, such as the Kelly Flinn affair. Feminists charged a double standard and that Flinn was being pilloried for mere adultery. Sympathetic to Flinn, news organizations were slow to report that the bomber pilot – the first woman to fly a B-52 – was having an affair with the husband of an enlisted woman on her airbase. She was directly damaging morale in her unit and had flagrantly refused to obey a direct order to discontinue the affair. These were serious charges that put the prosecution for adultery in perspective.

Racism in Reverse. In terms of bias, no issue bears the mark of the new diversity orthodoxy more

At some news organizations ... liberal values have practically become a condition of employment. Those with more conservative views have a hard time getting through the door, and if they do, they are wary of admitting their views.

than affirmative action. Although the American public disdains racial preference, the journalistic establishment is quite fond of it.

The ideological slant was clear during slanted coverage of the 1996 California Civil Rights Initiative, also known as Proposition 209, which successfully rolled back racial preferences in state hiring and higher education. At the beginning of that initiative, *The New York Times Magazine* ran an article about Patrick Chavis, a black doctor in Los Angeles, as evidence that affirmative action in medical schools was working by bringing good doctors into minority neighborhoods. Later, after Chavis maimed several patients, killed another and the state yanked his medical license for egregious malpractice, the *Times* – as well as other news organizations that also put Chavis on a pedestal as an affirmative-action hero – never reported it.

Bias also is apparent in the hysterical, exaggerated way the short-term consequences of affirmative-action rollback efforts are reported, as in the much-hyped resegregation of higher education stories that came out in 1997. Contrary to what so many journalists predicted, steps to end racial preferences in university admissions did not result in lily-white campuses. On some university campuses, minority enrollments did go down. On others, they went up.

Lean to the Left. Although the public is diverse in its political leanings, journalists are far more liberal and are becoming even

more so. Surveys comparing opinions of reporters and editors to those of the population at large show 81 percent of journalists favor affirmative action, compared to 51 percent of the public. About 51 percent of journalists favor abortion on demand, compared to 33 percent of non-journalists. And while only 41 percent of the public thought homosexuality was morally acceptable, 83 percent of the media thought so in a 1995 *Los Angeles Times* poll.

At some news organizations, especially at those most committed to diversity, liberal values have practically become a condition of employment. Those with more conservative views have a hard time getting through the door, and if they do, they are wary of admitting their views.

The problem is not an active liberal conspiracy, as some conservatives charge. Rather, it is one of an invisible liberal consensus that is either hostile to, or simply unaware of, the other side of things, thereby making the newsroom susceptible to an unconscious but deeply rooted bias.

Not helping matters is the increasing social narrowness of the profession. Although diversity enthusiasts talk a good deal about the class component of the race/gender/class triad, news organizations have not made much of an effort to target people from working-class backgrounds of any color in outreach efforts.

Although the “gritty” days of the old front page are overly romanticized, journalists once had roots in working-class communities. That gave them an automatic understanding of the public’s po-



The Card That

Remembers



*As a Paid-Up-For-Life Member of The American Legion,
you gain the benefits you deserve—for life.*



- ★ Never pay annual dues again
- ★ Enjoy lifetime discounts on prescriptions, eyewear and travel services
- ★ Receive *The American Legion Magazine*—for life

***Now, you can take 12 full months to pay your
PUFL Membership, with just 10% down!***



*Look for a PUFL Application
included with your renewal notice.*

*Or, call for one today at
1-800-433-3318.*

* Excludes NE, AK, KS & California Headquarter Post members.



litical and cultural center of gravity. Today's journalists, whatever their color, gender or background, are largely brought up and educated in an insular upper- to middle-class universe, disconnected from people who bear diversity's burdens more heavily.

Another estranging factor is a lack of military service. Like much of elite America, the newsroom does not have many veterans in its ranks. This has discouraged an appreciation of the harder realities of life in the service, the uniqueness of military culture, and just how hard it is to prepare for war and fight it. It also has led the public to question the press' patriotism. That question came up after Sept. 11 in a widely publicized dispute over whether or not TV news anchors should wear U.S. Flag lapel pins on the air. Many chose not to.

Journalists also tend to lack devotion to religious traditions or exposure to people who follow them. In fact, much of elite journalism is hostile to people of faith, even those who might be working alongside them. A national organization of Christian journalists conducted its annual convention in secret in a foreign country last year. Names of speakers and attendees were kept confidential because many feared losing their jobs. Organizations of black, Latino, gay and Asian journalists know no such anxiety. One network reporter

who addressed the Christian group was so fearful he filched the tape recording of the event so his bosses would not discover his beliefs.

This anxiety is even more well-earned when it comes to dissidents who challenge orthodoxy on diversity or make charges of bias. Journalism is a profession that prides itself on its maverick outspokenness and its free-spirited regard for skepticism. Yet in today's climate the subject of bias is practically taboo.

"I deplore the fact that the issue is so sensitive that reporters don't want to talk by name," said one Washington bureau chief when I approached him to talk about diversity and the ideological bias it encourages.

In many ways, news organizations have become the same kind of dysfunctional cultures as those on the campuses of multicultural universities, where transgressions against the dominant line of thought can result in blackballing and ostracism.

Indeed, dissenters run great risks and are targets of irrational condemnation. Just look at how journalistic elites have responded to Bernard Goldberg's best-selling book, "Bias," an insider account of his years at CBS. Goldberg was "a second-string newsman at CBS" who took early retirement "because he couldn't make it to the top," *USA Today* founder Al Neuharth cattily observed.

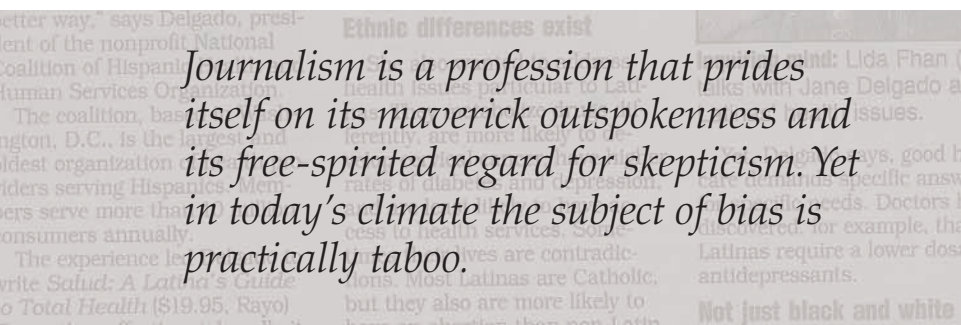
Critics might have the last laugh, though. Much of the alienated white middle class has embraced conservative talk radio, arguably a Frankenstein monster created by the politically correct press. Talk-radio shows have proliferated wildly, and Fox News is No. 1 in cable. As Robert Bartley, editor of *The Wall Street Journal's* editorial pages, observes, "If it finds the mainstream press lacking, the public will simply find its own sources of information, as declining readership and network news ratings suggest is already happening."

Instead of making public discourse more intellectually sophisticated, the journalistic propaganda on diversity has helped dumb it down. Instead of nurturing a sense of public cooperation where the public feels the bonds and obligations of shared citizenship, the emphasis on diversity has discouraged it by celebrating ethnic differences and supporting a race-conscious approach to public life. And instead of enhancing public trust – a critical element in the forging of a public consensus on the thorny issues at hand – the press' diversity effort has discouraged it through double standards and distorted analyses favoring certain groups over others and crimping the debate it purports to enhance.

As one perceptive reporter at *The San Francisco Chronicle* reflects, "The ultimate goal is a society with as much racial and ethnic fairness and harmony as possible, but we can't get there unless we in the press are ready to talk about it in full." □

William McGowan is a regular contributor to The Wall Street Journal. His latest book is "Coloring the News: How Crusading For Diversity Has Corrupted American Journalism" (Encounter Books).

Article design: King Doxsee



How to Purchase a Hearing Aid Risk-Free!

You always receive...

★ **45-day home trial**

★ **1 year warranty**

★ **Money back guarantee**

★ **FREE Shipping**

You will receive
(with your hearing aid)
FREE:



5 Free batteries

+ FREE
soft carrying case

+ FREE
cleaning brush



Made in the USA!

SOFT
EarMate-65

Unsolicited comments from our customers - printed with their permission.

"I saw your ad, said what have I got to lose and ordered them. I opened the package, put them in and WOW! They fit & worked better than the \$4,000 ones. I couldn't believe it so I bought a back up set"

E.B. - Largo, FL

"It is good to hear birds, water running etc., but I am going to have to trade my truck-I didn't know it rattled so bad!"

Earl Coleman - TN

"You sent the new 65 and I like it a lot, love the attaching eartips."

D.E. - Stanfield, NC

"It was amazing at all the sounds that I heard with my EarMate-65. I didn't think I would ever be able to afford a hearing aid but Hearing Help Express made it possible. Thank you so much and God Bless."

B.M. - Keokee, VA

Out of Sight!



Soft Hearing Aid with Remarkable Sound!

The EarMate-65 is the only soft hearing aid with five sizes of soft tips. You select the size that works best for you to ensure a comfortable, well-fitting hearing aid. A good fit reduces feedback, that awful squealing sound that all hearing aids can make.

You will also enjoy a more natural sound from the Class-D circuitry in the EarMate-65. Use everyday or just when you need a little extra help.

You order easily by mail from a family business with over 200,000 satisfied customers and 20 years selling hearing aids by mail.

Shipping is free. You try the new, soft EarMate-65 risk-free with a 45-day home trial and money-back guarantee. All for only \$299!

Compare to hearing aids over \$1,000 & decide which is best for you. Write or call today!

Call 1-800-782-2089

ext. 34-418 for your Free Information!

Hearing Help Express

105 North First St., Dept 34-418
DeKalb, IL 60115-0586

Free Shipping!



YES! Please rush me complete details on the soft EarMate-65.

I understand there is no obligation and no salesperson will call.

Mr.Mrs.Ms. _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____



Remote-Control Wars

Maj. Gen. Victor E. Renuart Jr. reveals cyber-technology's role in the war on terrorism.

BY GEORGIE ANNE GEYER

Whenever anyone asks Maj. Gen. Victor E. Renuart Jr. what he's been doing to stay sane since Sept. 11, he says, "Sailing and playing tennis – and of course, being with my family." It's understandable this polished Air Force officer needs to let off steam once in a while. His job at the U.S. Central Command in Florida involves heading up our national military operations in 25 different countries, including Afghanistan. During the first three weeks following the attacks on America, from his small but busy office at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Renuart

Even during a late-morning lull, the U.S. Central Command's Joint Operations Center at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Fla., monitors the steady flow of information to and from troops in Afghanistan and around the world. *Central Command/Staff Sgt. Jack Siemieniec*

often worked around the clock putting together "the plan" that has defined this war since its beginning. Just outside the base lies the azure Tampa Bay, but inside the stark buildings at MacDill, Renuart can operate anywhere in the world.

With the taut air of a smart, experienced combat pilot, Renuart speaks from a lifetime of unusually rich experiences. He joined the Air Force in 1971 after graduating from Indiana University, was commissioned through Officer Training School in 1972, and commanded a NATO support group and two fighter wings. As commander of the 76th Fighter Squadron during Desert Shield and Desert Storm, he flew 34 combat missions. He also commanded the Joint Task Force-Southwest Asia and the 9th Air & Space Expeditionary Task Force-Southwest Asia.

Renuart's education is equally diverse; he has a master's degree in psychology from State University in Troy, Ala., and he is a distinguished graduate of the Squadron Officer School at Alabama's Maxwell Air Force Base. In 1992, he attended the Army War College in Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

As director of operations for the U.S. Central Command in Florida, Renuart is 5,000 miles away from the battlefield. Still, he believes he and his fellow officers can "smell" the battlefield. He thinks strategically. He is a persuasive interlocutor. And he is the prototypical new American combat officer.

He recently agreed to an interview with *The American Legion Magazine*.

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE: What kind of war is the war in Afghanistan, and how did you originally address it?

MAJ. GEN. VICTOR E. RENUART JR.: It's surely a different kind of war. First of all, the events of Sept. 11 set everybody into a planning tailspin because it wasn't something we had previously factored into our

"[The war in Afghanistan is] surely a different kind of war. First of all, the events of Sept. 11 set everybody into a planning tailspin because it wasn't something we had previously factored into our traditional planning."

traditional planning. Some of our thinking included these possibilities, but we did not think of an event so catastrophic, and so our capacities were not so focused on this.

It soon became obvious that none of our traditional planning applied. We had no staging rights in the region, and we did not even have a formal relationship with Afghanistan as a country. Putting a plan together was quite a challenge; it took two to three weeks and a lot of sleepless nights.

We started out by having teams looking at various pieces. I discussed operations with Gen. Tommy Franks, our [commander in chief], on a near-daily basis. It was 'refine, refine, refine.' We had well-integrated teams: the Justice Department, the State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency,

and the National Imaging and Mapping Agency. Our headquarters was totally focused on the region, and because of the ongoing action there, we were able to draw from the post-Gulf War experience upon three task forces that were already formed to deal with Iraq. That centered around problems dealing with the Kurds, Kuwait and maritime issues. Because we had those task forces already in existence, we had the basis to work from. Still, it was three weeks before we had "the plan."

TALM: From the beginning, were you trying to avoid our Vietnam experience and the experience of the Soviets and others in Afghanistan?

RENUART: Yes to both. We had a number of discussions with specialists who had studied the Soviet ex-



As director of military operations for the U.S. Central Command in Florida, Maj. Gen. Victor E. Renuart Jr. is a prototype of the new American combat officer. *Central Command/Staff Sgt. Jack Siemieniec*

"[The United States] had no staging rights in the region, and we did not even have a formal relationship with Afghanistan as a country. Putting a plan together was quite a challenge – it took two to three weeks and a lot of sleepless nights."

perience in Afghanistan, and these discussions led us to feeling that a ground war would be risky from several standpoints. The Afghans already had fought an armored force with the Soviets, and they got embroiled there exactly like the United States did in Vietnam. Throughout history, the Afghans liked nothing better than to fight foreigners. But we wanted to be collaborators with them. So it seemed to us that along with leveraging political support among the Afghan people we could have small forces that could be efficient. We were trying to avoid all of the pitfalls.



Staff Sgt. David C. Clark, a parachute rigger with the 5th Quartermaster Company, 191st Ordnance Battalion, 29th Support Group, 21st Theater Support Command, unpacks a box of humanitarian daily rations at Ramstein Air Force Base. *U.S. Army*

TALM: Some of us have thought that our military had to become anthropologists, in addition to fighters, who were suddenly required to know much about different cultures. Who were the groups and individuals who influenced you in those first days and weeks?

RENUART: We had visits here from think-tanks and academic organizations, but especially from the military think-tanks. We believed that they could provide us with an historical perspective and an awareness of the political sensibilities among the various Afghan tribes. In fact, the Hazaras, the Shias and others all have different reactions. Knowing that was critical to us, especially to the Special Forces.

TALM: Why were the Special Forces so central to this war?

RENUART: We learned a lot from the Special Forces' experiences in Vietnam, in Haiti and even in NATO, where for many years we had to have relations with different countries, and we learned how to react with them. In addition, over the years we had trained the Special Forces in humanitarian as well as military affairs. Many of them were retired or were in civilian life when the crisis came. We got word to the people having special talents, many of them having unique political talents in civilian jobs. Because we had the authority to pull up reservists among all the services, we could do this. We studied how they would be integrated into the indigenous movements we would work with on the ground.

TALM: I think most Americans were astonished to see U.S. soldiers on horseback wearing turbans riding across Afghanistan with the Afghans.

RENUART: Yes, someone here said, "It's a little like the Charge of the Light Brigade taking on a 'Star Wars' force." That kind of mission, plus the infusion of air power, was able to carry the day. We were literally fighting with swords and muskets on the ground, while precision bombs were falling through clouds onto their targets. It was a phenomenal marriage of technologies. Had there been a slower

Commanding an overseas war from home

A number of generals and historians have pondered over the years if the command for a theater of war must be in the theater itself.

As early as the first years of the 20th century, Count Alfred von Schlieffen, chief of the German general staff from 1892 to 1906, insisted that modern communications would allow future army commanders to lead from distant headquarters. "In a comfortable chair by a large table, the modern commander overlooks the whole battlefield on a map," he predicted with confidence.

When I visited Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Fla., I did not see any generals resting in comfortable chairs surveying their kingdoms. What I saw were busy, serious men and women, deeply aware of what Sept. 11 means to the nation and to the military, fulfilling in their own way von Schlieffen's prediction of distant command.

"We probably can say with some certainty that this is the first time that a commander in chief did not feel the need to be resident in the theater," said Jay E. Hines, the base's civilian command historian. "Because of communications, in particular e-mail, it doesn't matter whether he is here, there or on the moon. The commander in chief is wherever he is."

In fact, every day at 11 a.m., Gen. Tommy Franks meets through a video teleconference with his five component commanders who are now based in the region – the Marines and Navy in Bahrain, the Army in Kuwait, the Air Force in Saudi Arabia and the Special Forces at an undisclosed location near Afghanistan. Behind those component commanders are more than 1,000 war planners, logistics experts and support specialists now at sophisticated command posts in the region. Franks also travels often to the region to meet with American troops and foreign leaders. While he looks and acts like an old-style Army officer, he is in fact a man who is shaping the future of warfare.

– Georgie Anne Geyer

buildup, the mission would have more approximated Desert Storm, but because the mission built up so quickly, the tools of our planning effort had to be different.

TALM: Historians say it is unique to have command and control for a war thousands of miles away from the theater. How has it worked out?

RENUART: We don't have a forward location, and yet our com-

Macular Degeneration

Discover why thousands of people with low vision have purchased the VideoEye® power magnification system to continue reading and doing everyday tasks

"The VideoEye® is wonderful! I depend on it every day. We checked other systems. It is superior to everything else! I can't read with any kind of optical magnification, but I can read with the VideoEye®."

Wallace Edgar, La Mesa, CA

New!

LCD PowerZoom™

Fingertip power magnification adjustment from 3x power up to 65x power

**Try it at home
for 30 days!**

VideoEye!

Dept TL 10211 West Emerald Boise, ID 83704
ph (208) 323-9577 fax (208) 377-1528

® VideoEye is a registered trademark of VideoEye Corporation Patents pending

For information or to order call
1-800-416-0758
30 day money-back guarantee

www.videoeyecorp.com



An infantryman with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) carries a full combat load while moving into a security position after seizing a forward operating base at the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom. Cyber-technology enables the U.S. Central Command to smell the battle and deploy troops from half a world away. *USMC*

mand here in Tampa is able to connect to our components well. All command and control in the theater is available to us here. We didn't lose a lot at all, and at the same time, it was important to have that daily ongoing discussion that we could have here with the Joint Chiefs. Being in the same time zone was also important. If we had been drawn into a longer battle, it might have been different.

TALM: What were the major differences between the war in Afghanistan and the Gulf War?

RENUART: Actually, this mission has been closer to the Kosovo air-bombing war, but the circumstances we started with were different. We had to feed and take care of the Afghan people. In November, when we were at the height of our military operations, we delivered more humanitarian aid there than American organizations did at any comparable period in the last 10 years.

TALM: Can you share with us some of the lessons for the future?

RENUART: Connectivity of command and control is something that must be considered for the future. Each of several examples could have some application for the future. Before, we were forced to move forward. The good news is that now we have the technology

that allows us to do this, and we are now developing technology which allows us to choose to go forward – or not. Having command and control without being based in a foreign country is of great importance. For one thing, it's not necessary to negotiate everything.

We learn lessons every day. It's too early yet to say exactly what, but we can list a few. First, there is the definitive value of the command and control architecture we've been working on the last few years.

Then there is the importance of bilateral relations with countries for phased staging. We've developed good relations with countries where we didn't expect them: Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, to name a few.

We're slowly building these relations, and Gen. Franks has been able to develop good personal relations with many of the leaders. In Uzbekistan, for instance, we have the use of part of a base, which can be used for bilateral missions. In Kyrgyzstan, we have joint use with the Kyrgyz of a military base. This will allow us to supply logistical support north and south.

The support of Russia has been noteworthy. It has allowed us to send traffic through the country, and the Russian liaison here on base has been important. They helped clear the Salang Tunnel, for instance, which was complete-

"We see the war through the computer-generated picture of the air war. You can see all the aircraft, you can see the ground in Afghanistan. This allows the commander in chief to make decisions and also to get a sense of what is happening in real time."

ly clogged during the years of the fighting between the Taliban and the Northern Alliance. We have 16 countries contributing forces as part of the coalition and in all we have 27 countries that are represented here in Tampa. They are here because of the Afghan war.

TALM: How can you feel the battle when Central Command is so far away from the battlefield?

RENUART: Our technology has allowed us a better "feel." It's not the smell of the gunpowder, but it does allow us agile decision-making.

We see the war through the computer-generated picture of the air war. You can see all the aircraft, you can see the ground in Afghanistan. This allows the commander in chief to make decisions and also to get a sense of what is happening in real time. Before, you had to allow for the "devils of the distance." We have this "ops center" with big computer screens. The men and women are behind their desks. There is immediate transmittal of orders and instantaneous communication back and forth that we didn't have in the Gulf War. There is instantaneous interaction with our component commanders in the war. That is how the commander gets the new "smell of war." □

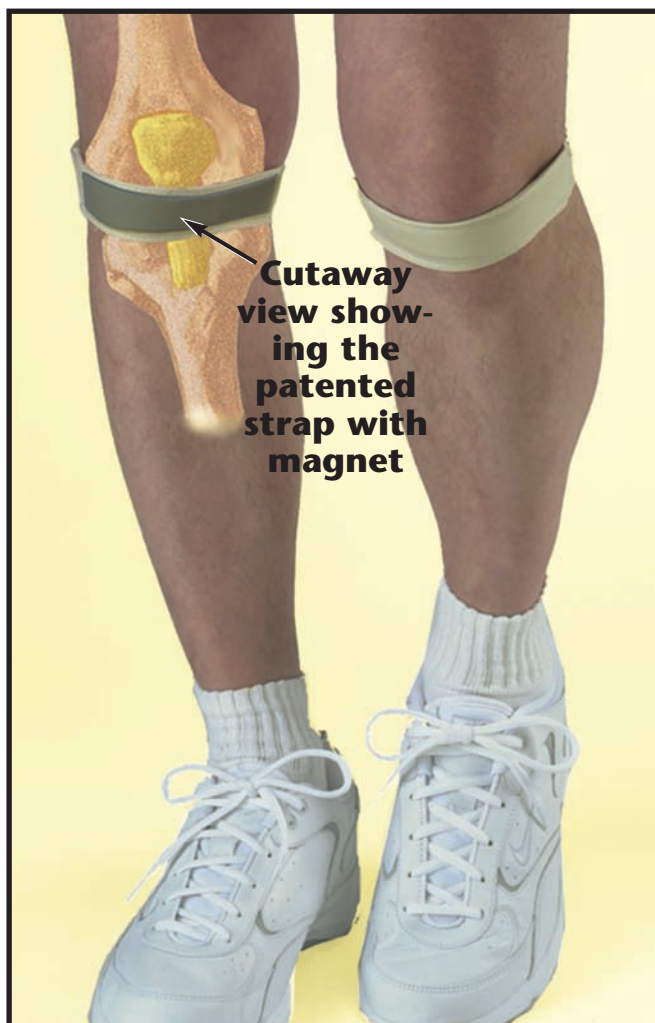
Georgie Anne Geyer is a columnist for Universal Press Syndicate.

Article design: Doug Rollison

Doctor' Patented Knee Therapy— The Latest Treatment For Chronic Or Occasional Knee Pain

FREEDOM FROM KNEE PAIN...FOREVER

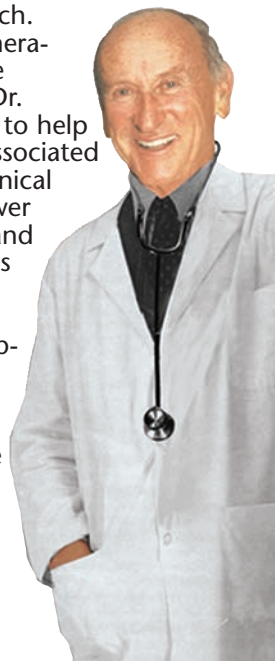
Dr. Levine's Patented Power Magnetic Knee Strap—If you suffer from occasional or chronic knee pain here is the revolutionary new way to get fast relief. No pills, no injections, no surgery just the clinically proven Power Knee Strap newly developed with the additional power of magnets. Dr. Jack Levine, nationally famous physician and former head of orthopedic surgery at one of New York's leading hospitals is now making available to the public a remarkable treatment for knee pain.



- **ADJUSTABLE TO FIT ALL KNEE SIZES**
- **WEIGHS ONLY 2 OZ. (YOU'LL HARDLY KNOW YOU'RE WEARING IT)**
- **MACHINE WASHABLE**
- **UNDETECTABLE UNDER CLOTHING**

**FOR MORE GREAT BARGAINS VISIT US AT:
www.nationaltvbargains.com**

Dr. Levine's Power Magnetic Knee Strap has been described in a paper published in the American Journal of Sports Medicine, and in Clinical Orthopedic and Related Research. Thousands of doctors, physiotherapists and athletic trainers in the United States and Europe use Dr. Levine's therapeutic knee strap to help relieve the pain and swelling associated with chronic knee pain. Yes, clinical studies document how the Power Knee Strap presses away pain and promotes rapid recovery. Pain is not only virtually eliminated in the knee, but the doctor's patented strap continues to support the patella and lessen any strain on the kneecap. When worn the knee strap affords increased mobility allowing the wearer to be totally active.



Dr. Levine is a Nationally famous orthopedic surgeon and former head of orthopedic surgery at a prestigious New York hospital. Inventor of clinically proven and patented Power Knee Strap used by thousands of doctors, trainers and sports medicine experts.

PROVE IT TO YOURSELF WITHOUT RISK

One Full Year Guarantee

Send for the Doctor's "Magnetic" Knee Strap today. Try it for as much as a full year on our money-back certified guarantee. Run with it. Play tennis with it...lead a complete active life. If you do not experience virtually total relief, increased flexibility and increased mobility simply return for a full purchase price refund, less p&h. Rush your order today.

©2002 National TV Bargains, 1 Eversley Ave., Norwalk, CT 06851

NATIONAL TV BARGAINS, Dept. DLKD-0301 1 Eversley Ave, Norwalk, CT 06851-5844

Please send me the following Dr. Levine's Magnetic Knee Straps ordered below on your money-back guarantee, less p&h.

- ☐ One Power Knee Strap only \$9.98
- ☐ **SAVE!** Two Power Knee Straps only \$17.98
- ☐ **BEST OFFER!** Four Power Knee Straps only \$29.98

Add \$4.25 p&h no matter how many you order

(CT residents please add 6% Sales Tax)

Enclosed is \$_____ check or money order.

OR: Charge it: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Acct# _____ Exp. _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Lift the U.S. embargo on Cuba

OPPOSE



Rep. Tom DeLay
R-Texas

President George W. Bush divided the world into two camps with a basic, guiding principle: "Either you are with us or you are with the terrorists." Every country must choose between freedom and a culture of murder and destruction.

The misguided campaign to relax the embargo against Fidel

Castro's evil regime is a retreat from this bright-line division between freedom and tyranny. We risk clouding our resolve against terror in our own hemisphere.

Those who would end the embargo may believe their approach will bring constructive results. But nothing in Cuba takes place without Castro's blessing.

"Any economic activity between the United States and Cuba will only supply additional fuel to Castro's engine of repression."

And Castro profits from every business transaction there. Easing the embargo would only empower him.

For decades, the dictator has cultivated, trained and harbored terrorists and groups using murder to make political statements. Cuba is a safe haven for terrorist

fugitives. Castro shelters terrorists from Europe, Colombia and the United States. Castro's Cuba is a temple to violence.

Sept. 11 did nothing to shift Castro's reflexive hostility to democracy and freedom. Castro is entwined with the axis of evil. In Tehran, he recently said: "Iran and Cuba, in cooperation with each other, can bring America to its knees."

Any economic activity between the United States and Cuba will only supply additional fuel to Castro's engine of repression. Joint ventures and tourism wouldn't empower the Cubans.

Castro also is funneling resources to develop the world's most diabolical weapons. And he shares these evil exports with the world's most dangerous and unstable regimes.

We know Castro systematically brutalizes and oppresses the Cuban people. He drags his people through hardship, servitude and despair. Without a clear break from terrorist sponsorship and the adoption of fundamental economic, political and human-rights reforms, the embargo must be upheld.

Sen. Byron Dorgan
D-N.D.

SUPPORT



It's time to end the U.S. embargo against Cuba. It hasn't worked. It's counter-productive. And, when it comes to blocking the sale of food and medicine, it is a policy unworthy of a great nation like ours.

The embargo is now in its fifth decade. Fidel Castro remains in power – not despite the embargo, but because of it. For 42 years, he has used the embargo as an excuse for continued repression and as a scapegoat for his own failures. When Cuban kids go hungry because of grinding poverty, Castro blames the embargo. When they are sick and go without needed medicine, he blames America.

Castro hasn't missed a meal because of the embargo. Plenty of innocent poor people in Cuba, as well as America's own farmers and manufacturers, have been hurt by it though.

And by barring most Americans from exercising their constitutional right to travel to Cuba, we compound the problem by ensuring that Castro's voice is the only one heard.

The embargo against Cuba is inconsistent with our policy toward other communist countries. We now trade with, and travel to and from, communist Vietnam. The same goes for China. We've normalized relations with both countries because opening trade and travel helps move communist governments toward improved human rights, the rule of law, market freedom, and democracy.

Our Cuban policy, however, remains frozen in the 1960s. A broad majority in Congress supports the lifting of sanctions, but a few die-hard opponents in Congress and the administration are doing everything they can to keep the sanctions in place.

These policies make no sense.

If we want to bring democracy to Cuba, we

should engage the Cuban people and sell them our goods. Let them see how the American system works, what America's market delivers, how Americans live and what we really think.

Let Castro or whoever follows him try to hold the line against that.

YOUR OPINIONS COUNT

Senators and representatives are interested in constituent viewpoints. You may express your views in writing at the following addresses:

The Honorable (name)
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-3121

The Honorable (name)
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-3121



A stirring tribute to America's Heroes

Shown smaller than approximate height of 10 inches

"Standing Proud"

The United States Marines—four words that fill Americans with pride! Forged with an unyielding code of honor and imbued with a mythic sense of valor, the Marines' gallantry in battle is legendary. Now this striking collectible pays handsome tribute to the USMC.

"Standing Proud" unites meticulously hand-cast bronzed flag-raising figures with dramatic porcelain plate art of brave Marines in combat. Bronzed Marine emblem of eagle, globe and anchor and raised inscriptions complete this thrilling work of art. Strong demand is expected for the limited edition, so act now to acquire yours for the \$39.95 issue price. Send no money now. Mail the coupon today.



Expert hand-casting and painting brings every three-dimensional detail to life

THE BRADFORD EXCHANGE

9345 Milwaukee Avenue Niles, IL 60714-1393

THE *Heart* OF COLLECTING®

YES. Please enter my order for "Standing Proud." I understand I need SEND NO MONEY NOW. I will be billed \$39.95* when my collectible is shipped.

Limit: one collectible per order. **Please Respond Promptly**

Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____
Name (Please Print Clearly)

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____

07091-E94991

*Plus a total of \$5.99 postage and handling. Illinois residents add state sales tax. Pending credit approval. Limited Edition Presentation restricted to 295 casting days. Prices higher in Canada. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

collectiblestoday.com

Home of The Bradford Exchange and All Things Collectible

©2002 BGE 07091-BD

Mysteries of the heart

Cholesterol is not the only way to test for hidden heart disease

BY TARA PARKER-POPE

If you think having a cholesterol score below 200 gets you off the hook for heart disease, consider this troubling statistic: half the people who have heart attacks have normal cholesterol.

Cholesterol screening is an unreliable indicator of heart disease that creates a frustrating dilemma for the medical community. Many people with high cholesterol don't have heart disease, and many of those with low cholesterol do.

Doctors are looking for ways to find those people with normal cholesterol who have hidden heart disease. And they want to stop treating otherwise healthy people who simply have high cholesterol. A number of new tests can help.

Electron Beam Tomography (EBT) scans are emerging as a powerful new method for finding hidden heart disease. The scans look at artery walls for calcified plaque, an important early sign of heart disease. When patients see the ugly buildup with their own eyes, it is

often a powerful motivator for them to make lifestyle changes, like exercising and quitting smoking.

In one study, more than 300 women underwent cholesterol screening. Doctors then gave each one an EBT scan. Nearly half the women older than 55 who passed the cholesterol check had signs of heart disease on the scans. In women younger than 55, cholesterol screening missed heart disease 40 percent of the time.

Certain blood tests may also help find hidden heart disease. Doctors know that C-reactive protein and fibrinogen levels in the blood are strong indicators of heart disease, but those tests aren't widely available. Another popular way to screen for heart disease involves a homocysteine blood test. Elevated homocysteine can be reversed with vitamin B12, vitamin B6 and folic acid, but the supplements should only be taken under doctor supervision. B.P. Loughridge, a University of Oklahoma clinical associate professor and author of "The Cardiac Surgeon's Diet & Health Design," wants patients to ask their doctors to check homocysteine at the same time they check cholesterol.

Finally, many doctors advocate more precise cholesterol testing. The problem with regular cholesterol testing is that it uses a formula

to calculate a person's LDL, or bad cholesterol. But next-generation tests such as the VAP test, which uses a high-speed centrifuge process, take a closer, more-precise look at LDL, HDL (good cholesterol) and triglycerides, breaking them down even further into lipid subclasses that are often better indicators of a person's overall health. Someone with normal LDL, for instance, could have a high Lp(a) reading, which is often elevated in people who have heart attacks.

Before you rush to your doctor to ask for one of the new tests, know that many doctors don't use them yet, and insurance companies won't always pay for them. Often, only high-risk patients – such as those with a family history of heart disease – are eligible.

It's still a good idea to get a regular cholesterol check and to take cholesterol-lowering drugs, which have been proven to dramatically lower the risk of heart attack.

Tara Parker-Pope is an author and health writer for The Wall Street Journal.

Living Well is designed to provide general information. It is not intended to be, nor is it, medical advice. Readers should consult their personal physicians when they have health problems.

Kanter Foundation seeks outcomes database

To help patients and health-care providers make better decisions about how to tackle illnesses, the Kanter Family Foundation seeks to create an easily accessible, statistically reliable National Health Outcomes Database.

A comprehensive and confidential database of patients' treatment experiences could help determine

which treatments work best for specific conditions, businessman and philanthropist Joseph H. Kanter said.

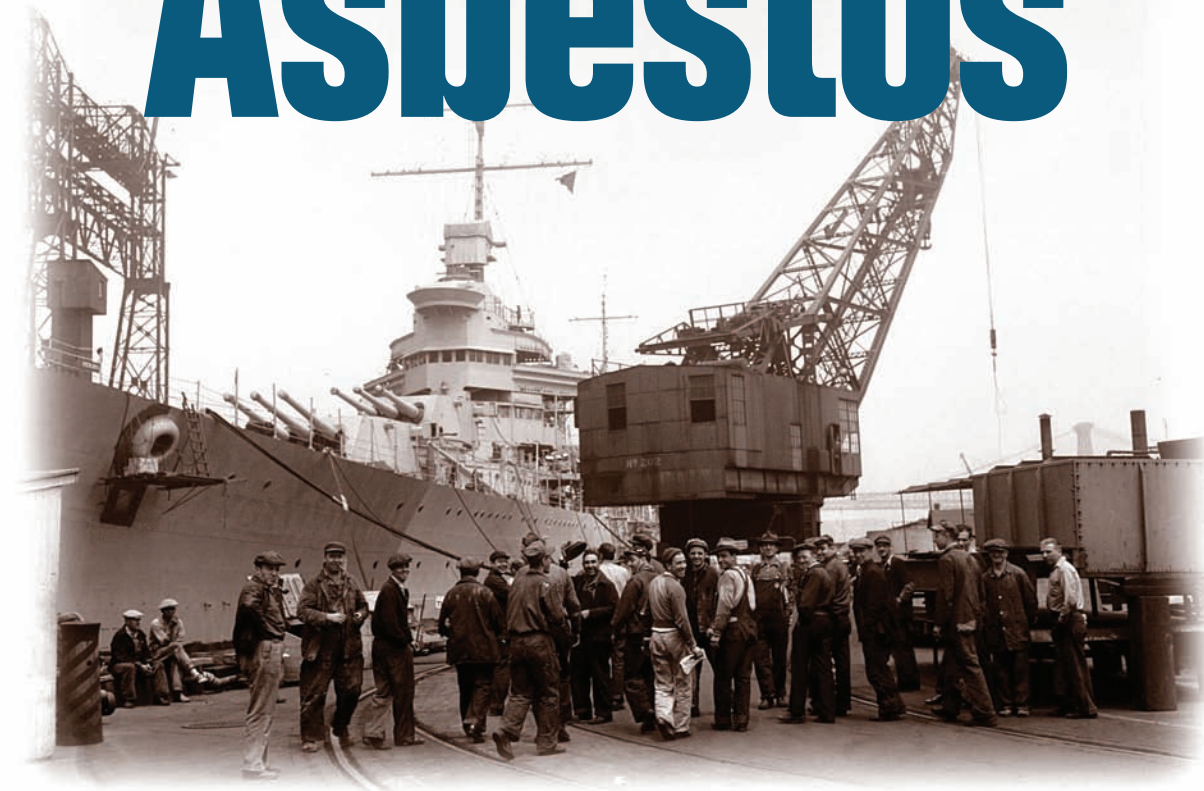
The foundation acts as a catalyst and broker to encourage others to undertake outcomes research projects, and it promotes efforts to foster public understanding that better treatment outcomes data will pro-

vide quality care by reducing unnecessary treatments and medical errors, Kanter adds.

When a person is diagnosed with a disease, he or she asks, "What do people like me do about treatment?" A nationwide database would help answer that question, Kanter said. It would report treatment experience of patients according to a number of characteristics, including age, health and lifestyle.

They dedicated their best years to keeping America strong...
Decades later many would get sick from the

Asbestos



From the 1930s to 1965 the Brooklyn Navy Yard teemed with activity. Thousands of men and women worked there — **and at hundreds of other shipyards, factories, powerhouses and construction sites** — to keep America strong through times of war and peace.

They were unaware of the silent danger that stalked them every working day — asbestos.

For many, it would take decades before the symptoms started showing — shortness of breath, a cough that wouldn't go away, chronic fatigue.

And then the diagnosis — **Mesothelioma or Lung Cancer** — diseases that often entailed serious

health consequences.

If you are a victim of asbestos-related mesothelioma or lung cancer, or a victim's immediate survivor, you should understand your rights and know what you are entitled to.

A free consultation with Weitz & Luxenberg will help you choose your best course of action. Weitz & Luxenberg has been one of the leading asbestos law firms in the United States for more than ten years.

To speak with one of our representatives and to obtain a copy of our free booklet on asbestos litigation, call us toll-free at **1-800-476-6070**.

About Weitz & Luxenberg

- Weitz & Luxenberg has successfully settled thousands of asbestos cases and is presently litigating many more thousands of asbestos cases from all across America.
- Over 70% of all asbestos cases on the New York City trial docket for the year 2001 are being handled by Weitz & Luxenberg.
- Over the years, Weitz & Luxenberg has won verdicts totaling in excess of \$340,000,000 for asbestos victims.
- Weitz & Luxenberg is powered by over 50 attorneys and 250 support personnel, all dedicated to serve your best interests.
- Weitz & Luxenberg offers comprehensive client care by maintaining separate worker's compensation, estate and client relations departments on their behalf.

Weitz & Luxenberg, P.C.

L A W O F F I C E S

Setting the standard in asbestos litigation for over a decade

180 Maiden Lane • New York, NY 10038

1(800)476-6070

www.weitzlux.com

Call for a free consultation & booklet

Future verdicts or settlements cannot be predicted from prior results.

The statute of limitations of your respective state will help determine your ability to file a claim.

Every breath you take

Respiratory hazards are epidemic

BY DR. JOHN R. FEUSSNER

Thousands of people in New York made their way to safety following the collapse of the World Trade Center towers. They survived the immediate danger, but it was not clear if they would suffer any long-term physical effects from inhaling the smoke and dust that filled the air.

The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 were horrific. In addition to the death and destruction they caused, they illustrate in an extreme fashion how polluted air can present health risks. We encounter less dramatic respiratory threats every day, and minimizing them can help us lead healthier lives.

Environmental Smoke. Little research has focused on environmental smoke, but a new VA study may be especially helpful to those most vulnerable to respiratory health risks – the elderly and people with lung or heart disease. Scientists at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System will investigate the effects of non-tobacco smoke on the lungs and other organs. They may produce new insights into how severe smoke can trigger health effects, including heart attacks.

These findings may point out specific areas of concern for people exposed to common forms of



U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer Tom Telehaney notes the air quality on the 20th floor of the World Financial Center a week after the terrorist attacks in New York. The Coast Guard and the EPA are ensuring the air is safe for workers to return for their belongings. **USCG**

air pollution. On a larger scale, the results may help communities, manufacturers and the armed forces develop plans to help people exposed to severe air pollution resulting from environmental emergencies and other events.

Tobacco Smoke. One of the best strategies to protect respiratory health is to avoid smoking and secondhand smoke as much as possible. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that men who smoke increase their risk of death from lung cancer by more than 22 times, and women increase their risk by 12 times. Male and

female smokers alike increase by nearly 10 times their risk of dying from bronchitis and emphysema.

Smoking is a great concern in VA, because studies show that veterans are more likely to smoke and smoke more heavily than nonveterans. Fortunately, we are learning more about how to help smokers quit. In the 1980s, VA researchers invented the nicotine patch. In one recent study, patients using the patch along with an oral drug called mecamylamine were more successful in their attempts to quit smoking than those using the patch alone. An ongoing study at the Minneapolis ➔see **breathe**, page 50

Korea, Vietnam war equipment sought

The Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory, part of the Human Systems Program Office, is looking for Air Force and Navy Korean War-era flight equipment including boots, helmets, flight suits and survival vests.

Analysts at the laboratory also seek Army equipment associated with air losses such as boots,

uniforms and web belts from the same period.

The equipment is sought in anticipation of MIA missions into Korea under the auspices of the Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii.

“Our laboratory does not deal in human remains,” said Elton Hudgins, chief of the Life Sciences laboratories at Brooks

Air Force Base, Texas. “Instead, we are involved in the scientific analysis of equipment which is used to indicate the possible presence of American servicemen. To properly do this, we need examples of materials from 1950 to 1953 for comparison purposes. We also need the same types of flight equipment from the Vietnam era, 1959 to 1975, to assist in ongoing identification cases.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Contact Elton Hudgins about the laboratory's requirements:
elton.hudgins@brooks.af.mil

James Coburn Tells How He Relieved Arthritis



Our Man Flint actor James Coburn (left) suffered for 20 years until he met Dr. Ron Lawrence (right).

For 20 years, severe joint problems made my life a living hell. Any kind of movement was difficult. I could barely walk—even getting up from a chair was pure agony. I went from doctor to doctor trying every medication and treatment available, but nothing seemed to work. I thought my career was over.

Then, a friend introduced me to Dr. Ronald Lawrence, a doctor who prefers to get to the cause of ailments rather than hand out drugs. Dr. Lawrence suggested that I had a deficiency of dietary sulfur because it plays an especially critical role in maintaining the elasticity and flexibility of the connective tissue and fibrous cartilage in the joints.

I was astounded because not one of the dozens of doctors I had seen over the last 20 years told me that. Dr. Lawrence also told me that sulfur is in *every healthy cell* and is used for repairing many of the structures of the body. However, many people don't get enough sulfur in their diets because farmers don't replace sulfur in the soil when they fertilize, and food processing often destroys it.

Dr. Lawrence sent me home with some dietary supplements (methylsulfonylmethane) and suggested that I take *megadoses* of them morning and night for three or four weeks, explaining that it takes some time to replenish your body from so great a deficiency.

Well, the fourth morning, I woke up and could hardly believe it. I didn't

have any pain, and I was bubbling with energy. I thought I must be having the occasional good day, thank God. The next morning, I awoke feeling terrific again and could hardly wait until Dr. Lawrence's office opened to call him with the news.

"Will it last?" I asked hopefully. Dr. Lawrence said I may have troubling times during the first month, but because of my early relief, he doubted that I would have many bad days. Dr. Lawrence explained that sulfur blocks the pain response in the nerve fibers for some people and helps rebuild crucial cells in the joints, but it can't do a complete rebuilding job all by itself.

Your joints are lined with a substance made from collagen and so is cartilage. Surprisingly, Dr. Lawrence said that collagen II from chicken sternums has been shown in clinical tests to be the best helper in repairing damage to your joints.

Also, he said that the Chinese's 2,000-plus years of medical experience with herbs has shown that two botanicals, *Corydalis turtchaninovii* and *Melia toosendan*, are important pain-relieving compounds.

Dr. Lawrence mixed the pain-relieving and sulfur-containing compounds, along with the collagen, together for me. Not once have I felt any side effects, because these are plant foods. I convinced Dr. Lawrence to turn over the formula to a manufacturer so the millions of people suffering the way I did can find relief. He chose Gero Vita International, and I agreed to let them print my story here *only if* they would let you try the formula, called MEGAMSM, at the lowest possible price.

Gero Vita knows how effective MEGAMSM is, so they didn't have any risk in going a step further to get you to try it. First, they'll give you a whopping 60% off a 30-day supply—only \$9.95 instead of the usual \$24.95. Plus, you can try MEGAMSM for 30 days, and if you don't like it, just mail the bottle back with the unused portion, and you'll get all of your \$9.95 back.

Of course, if it works for you *like it has for me*, you'll never want to go a day without MEGAMSM. However, you can't stock up on this because *it must be fresh for it to work well*. Therefore, Gero Vita will assume that if you haven't sent back the bottle with the unused portion within 30 days, you want to continue to take MEGAMSM. For your convenience, they have set up an automated delivery system so *you'll get a fresh supply at just the right time every month*.

Because Gero Vita saves money with the automated shipping and billing process, you won't be charged for any shipping costs—only \$24.95 will appear on your credit card statement each month. You can cancel at any time by mail or phone. There is no obligation.

During his research, Dr. Lawrence found that nutrients in some foods help your joints, while some foods can make them hurt. So, the doctor prepared a booklet entitled *What You Eat or Don't Eat Can Make Your Arthritis Better or Worse*. Gero Vita will send this valuable booklet to you *free* when you try MEGAMSM.

If you have joint problems of any kind, don't put up with the misery any longer.

Call 1-800-586-4649 24 hours a day.

Please give the operator this Priority Code to take advantage of this special offer.

Priority Code W1

Item# MS1A

Please send me a 30-day supply of MEGAMSM for just \$9.95, with free shipping and the free booklet *What You Eat or Don't Eat Can Make Your Arthritis Better or Worse*. I understand that I can return the unused portion of MEGAMSM anytime within 30 days of receiving it for a full refund of my \$9.95, and I will still be able to keep my free gifts. If I like MEGAMSM, I will automatically receive a fresh 30-day supply every 30 days, with free shipping and handling. My credit card will be billed only \$24.95 each month until I call to cancel with no further obligation.

Call 1-800-586-4649 24 hours a day.



Fogstock

Smaller aneurysms best left alone

Abdominal aortic aneurysms can be deadly if they rupture, but a study by the Department of Veterans Affairs has found it is better not to correct the problem with surgery unless the aneurysm exceeds a certain size.

The common hazards of surgery can be the greater threat unless the aneurysm is larger than 5.5 centimeters in diameter, according to findings published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

"Repair of a smaller aneurysm does not benefit the patient and may present greater risks than the aneurysm itself," said Dr. Frank Lederle of the Minneapolis VA Medical Center, lead author of the study. "Because we know that most of these smaller aneurysms will never rupture, our ultimate goal is to repair the aneurysm that will burst and no others."

The abdominal aorta is part of the aorta, a major artery that delivers blood from the heart to internal organs in the lower part of the body.

Aneurysms are blood-filled dilations that occur when the walls of the aorta weaken and bulge. They are fairly common, particularly among older men who have smoked, but most of them never rupture.

All patients face certain risks in surgery, including potentially deadly complications such as heart failure or infection. This raises the question whether it is a good idea to risk repairing something that may not pose a significant risk.

Lederle and his colleagues believe that guidelines based on their findings could result in at least 20 percent fewer repairs. This could mean fewer deaths and better treatment options for patients. Researchers also suspect the guidelines could be cost-effective as well. The study also demonstrated high surgery-survival rates at the 16 participating VA hospitals – nearly 98 percent.

The VA Cooperative Studies Program funded the study.

[breathe] VA Medical Center provides smokers with counseling and nicotine-replacement prescriptions by telephone and computer.

Hidden Threats. Other breathing hazards are not as obvious. For example, carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless byproduct of combustion in engines, furnaces and other fuel-burning appliances. It can be poisonous, but you can eliminate the threat by making sure your home is well-ventilated. You should buy at least one carbon monoxide detector – available at most hardware stores – for your home.

You should also check your home for levels of radon, a naturally occurring gas that breaks down into radioactive particles that can get trapped in your lungs and eventually cause lung cancer. Do-it-yourself testing kits are available at hardware stores and can be mailed to laboratories for reading. The results will determine if you need to take action to reduce radon levels in your home.

People owning older houses should determine if they have asbestos in their homes. Builders no longer use asbestos, but it once was common as a fire-resistant material on ceilings, pipes and other surfaces. Over time, asbestos crumbles into dust that can cause lung problems and cancer as long as 20 to 40 years after exposure. If you think you may have asbestos in your home, you should contact your local health department to inquire about having the air tested. Spraying asbestos with a sealant, removing it or constructing new walls can eliminate exposure.

Clearly, there are many threats to our respiratory health. Education is the key to avoiding these dangers and, as a result, to breathing easier.

John R. Feussner, M.D., M.P.H., is chief research and development officer of the Veterans Health Administration.

Living Well is designed to provide general information. It is not intended to be, nor is it, medical advice. Readers should consult their personal physicians when they have health problems.

Announcing the National Collector's Mint tribute to the...

RAREST U.S. GOV'T "CC" MORGAN SILVER DOLLAR



as a
100 Mil Pure Silver Proof for only \$9⁹⁵

WASHINGTON, D.C. Corp. ID Center, Tuesday, 8:55 AM — Today history is being made! The National Collector's Mint announces the limited advance release of 2,250 **1889 "CC" Morgan Silver Proofs** heralding America's rarest "CC" Morgan Silver Dollar, which was minted in Carson City, Nevada in 1889 and was struck with the famous "CC" mint mark.

Carson City Morgan Silver Dollars were minted from 1878 to 1885 and from 1889 to 1893. Less than 14 million were minted. Compare that to the 270.2 million Morgans melted by the government during World War I. Plus, an additional 50 million silver dollars were melted down during WWII. And how about the many millions more lost to the silver profiteers every time there's been a run up in silver prices? That's why the value of any surviving Morgans and especially those minted at Carson City has increased dramatically. In fact, a rare 1889 Carson City Morgan recently sold for \$529,000!

Morgan Silver Dollars were the most popular form of "hard cash" accepted to settle debts in the Old West. Of course, Carson City Morgan Silver Dollars haven't been minted in 109 years, nor will you find even one in general circulation.

ADVANCE DISCOUNT PRICE

The issue's price will be set at \$35.00

for each proof. But, during this limited advance striking period, this .999 pure silver clad masterpiece can be yours for only \$9.95. But you must act NOW to take advantage of this Special Advance Striking offer. The edition is limited to 2,250 pieces worldwide. **THIS MAY BE THE ONLY OPPORTUNITY YOU WILL EVER HAVE TO ACQUIRE THIS SILVER MASTERPIECE!**

Each **1889 "CC" Morgan Silver Proof** comes with a Certificate of Authenticity and is individually numbered. Distribution will take place in registration number order. So, the earliest orders receive the lowest registration numbers. A deluxe velvet presentation case is available for an additional charge.

SPECIFICATIONS

Composition:.....100 mil .999 Pure Silver
Clad Base
Weight:.....~1oz. avdp
Diameter:.....39MM Silver Dollar Size
Condition:.....Individually Struck Proof
Series:.....CC
Edition Limit:.....2,250
Registration:.....by number in ascending order

STRICT LIMIT

There is a strict limit of five Proofs per customer. Orders will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Nonetheless, if the **1889 "CC" Morgan Silver Proof** is not everything we promised, send back your order within 30 days by insured mail and we'll promptly

refund your purchase price. Your satisfaction is guaranteed.

HOW TO ORDER

Call now to ensure availability, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with your credit card or we'll take your check by phone. **Call toll-free 1-888-NAT-MINT, Ext. 6132** (1-888-628-6468). Timely mail orders will be accepted if directed to: National Collector's Mint, Dept. 6132, 4401A Connecticut Ave. NW, PMB-850, Washington, DC 20008. Nonetheless, late orders may not be honored and remittance will be returned uncashed.

You may order one **1889 "CC" Morgan Silver Proof** for \$9.95 plus \$2.50 shipping, handling & insurance, 3 for only \$35 ppd., or 5 for only \$55 ppd. Deluxe velvet presentation case is only \$3.50 each ppd. So, don't delay. Avoid disappointment and future regret. **ACT NOW!**

CALL TOLL-FREE, ASK FOR EXT. 6132

1-888-NAT-MINT



National Collector's Mint, Inc. is an independent, private corporation not affiliated with the U.S. government with headquarters at 8 Slater Street, Port Chester, NY 10573, 1-800-452-4321. © 2002 NCM, AL-A38

Visit our website at: www.ncmint.com

Tax havens

CNBC has aired a revealing series of reports titled "Treasure Islands" about tax havens. Reporter Scott Cohn notes that Enron created more than 600 partnerships in the Caymans, a British colony, but employed no one there and built no facilities.

Cohn visited the Caymans and reports that many companies find them attractive because of their secrecy laws and low or nonexistent taxes. "No wonder most major U.S. companies have some sort of presence here," he said.

Some members of Congress want to get their hands on that revenue. Rep. Lloyd Doggett, D-Texas, said, "There are billions and billions of dollars that we all have to make up for as ordinary taxpayers that are being lost to the Treasury, and it's really unfortunate." Doggett has sponsored legislation that would make offshore incorporation more difficult.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Tax Policy Mark Weinberger would prefer to amend U.S. tax laws, encouraging businesses to stay put. "We have a tax system, practically the only one in the civilized world, that taxes all income no matter where it's earned," he said. "Most foreign jurisdictions only tax business income within their borders."

China's agent

A controversial new book claims that China and Osama bin Laden were forging a close relationship when America was attacked on Sept. 11 and that bin Laden was a communist "surrogate."

The charges are from Gordon Thomas, a noted commentator on intelligence matters in Europe and author of "Gideon's Spies," a book on the Israeli intelligence service. Israeli officials have praised his knowledge of world events.

"Seeds of Fire," published by Dandelion Books in the United States, emphasizes the regime's links with al Qaida and its protector, Afghanistan's Taliban regime. "Osama bin Laden visited Beijing and met with People's Liberation Army senior officers, senior government officials and people in the

Canada: Good neighbor or refuge for terrorists?

A Canadian think tank is advocating a "strategic bargain" between the United States and Canada to guarantee security and economic benefits for both countries. The C.D. Howe Institute proposes that Canada beef up border security in exchange for greater access to U.S. markets.

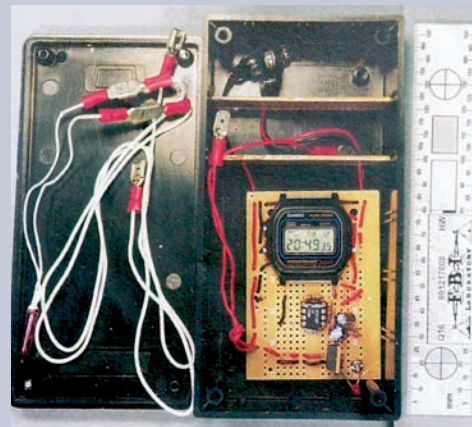
The security problem is dramatically portrayed in the book "Waging War From Canada," copies of which were confiscated at the border by Canadian customs officials.

The author, who writes under the pseudonym Mike Pearson and lives in Canada, says terrorists can freely enter Canada by simply claiming to be refugees. He outlines four basic schemes they use to enter the country.

Canada's *National Post* reports that when the American publisher tried to ship two crates of the book to Canada, one was confiscated and one disappeared. "Drawing on public sources ranging from congressional hearings to *National Post* articles and think-tank reports, 'Waging War

From Canada' is a blunt critique of the conditions that it says make this country a haven for terrorists," the paper said.

At the trial of Ahmed Ressam, the Algerian who came from Canada to the United States to bomb the Los Angeles



Prosecutors released this photo of an explosive device, following the conviction of Algerian Ahmed Ressam on several charges of terrorism. Ressam became a Canadian by using a fake student card and a forged baptismal certificate. AP

airport, a student testified that he had no trouble applying for six Canadian passports on behalf of nonexistent people. Ressam became a Canadian by using a fake student card and a forged baptismal certificate.

— C.K.

arms industry," Thomas said. "He wanted a billion-dollar deal to refurbish the Taliban infrastructure in Afghanistan. Bin Laden returned to China for medical treatment for a kidney problem, and he was in need of a transplant."

On Sept. 11, he said, top Chinese officials arrived in Kabul to make the deal. The Chinese planned to provide the Taliban with state-of-the-art communications, air-defense systems and other sophisticated military equipment in exchange for a promise to end attacks by Muslim extremists in China's northwestern regions. The deal was never ratified.

Also interesting is China's attitude regarding Sept. 11, Thomas said. China has sanctioned official

videos showing the collapse of the World Trade Center and the damage at the Pentagon with commentary saying "this is the America the whole world wanted to see; blood debts are being repaid in blood."

As film is shown of desperate people running down the streets of New York away from the carnage, the commentary continues, "Look at the panic in their faces as they wipe off the dust, and their once-strong buildings are just a heap of rubble. We will never fear these people again. They have shown themselves to be soft-bellied paper tigers, these Americans."

"It is a terrifying image of what China thinks of us," Thomas said.

— Cliff Kincaid

Badge of Honor

A Tribute to Police Officers Everywhere



Plays the inspiring melody of "Heroes"

Base features the moving verses of "The Police Officer's Prayer"

- Inside compartment provides perfect storage for treasured mementoes
- Limited edition complete with a hand-numbered Certificate of Authenticity

Shown actual size of about 5 1/2 inches high.



Premiering at only
\$29.95



Hand-painted
three-dimensional
sculptural
American flag

"Serve and Protect" Heirloom Tribute Box

Police officers put their lives on the line to serve and protect their fellow citizens. Now this heroism is celebrated in a new tribute box exclusively from Ardleigh Elliott. With a base displaying the moving verses of "The Police Officer's Prayer," the tribute box plays the uplifting melody of "Heroes" on an eighteen-note musical movement. On the lid rests a hand-painted *Heirloom Porcelain™* American flag, supporting a shining police shield badge in a gleaming gold-metallic finish.

Urgent Notification: Availability Is Strictly Limited.

With time-intensive hand-crafting and widespread admiration for police officers, demand could quickly exceed availability. So order now, and be one of the select group to get this tribute box at only \$29.95 (plus shipping), backed by our 365-day guarantee. ***Your prompt response is critical.*** Send no money now. Just complete and mail the coupon.

collectiblestoday.com

Home of Ardleigh Elliott and All Things Collectible
©2002 Ardleigh Elliott 72381-BD



Ardleigh Elliott
9204 Center for the Arts Drive
Niles, IL 60714

Please Respond
Promptly

YES. Please enter my order for the "Serve and Protect" Heirloom Tribute Box. I understand I need SEND NO MONEY NOW. I will be billed \$29.95* with shipment.

Signature _____

Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____ Name (Please Print Clearly)

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

*Plus \$4.99 postage and handling. Illinois residents add state sales tax.
Pending credit approval. Please allow 4-6 weeks for shipping.
Offer valid in the U.S. only.

72381-E94901

A VA for all veterans

Legionnaires take issues to the Hill

BY JOHN RAUGHTER

Legionnaires at the annual Washington Legislative Conference did far more than offer criticism of VA. They offered solutions.

Concerned that CARES – Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services – may become VA's version of the military-base closing committees, The American Legion has been pushing for a "GI Bill of Health" that would guarantee that few, if any, VA facilities will be under-used.

Medicare subvention, a major item on the Legion's legislative agenda, would open VA's doors to millions of veterans who otherwise would not seek treatment at VA facilities. Generally, any person is eligible for Medicare if that person or spouse worked at least 10 years, is at least 65 and is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident. Yet the Veterans Health Administration is not authorized to bill Medicare for services.

CARES is the product of a GAO report that concluded VA could save money by analyzing the efficiency of every VHA building. The American Legion issued a point paper at the conference stating this is "a sound philosophy provided that all health-care needs are being met." Speakers at the conference concluded that health-care needs will not be met by closing facilities.

"As we wage a war against terrorism, it is essential that our federal government send a signal that we are firmly committed to meeting our veterans' health-care needs," said Rep. Benjamin Gilman, R-N.Y.

Gilman, a World War II veteran and member of Middletown, N.Y., Post 151, is a "Priority Group 7" veteran, VA's designation for non-indigent veterans without service-connected injuries or illnesses.



At the annual Washington Conference, National Commander Richard J. Santos applauded fellow Legionnaires for demonstrating their resolve on critical issues before Congress this year. "Your presence here sends a clear message to your elected officials," he explained. *James V. Carroll*

Gilman is pushing for legislation to make health care for Category 7 veterans a mandatory item.

Legion officials say VHA also could serve more veterans by being a TRICARE provider for military retirees and their eligible dependents. By offering premium-based health-benefits packages to veterans and dependents, VA would receive additional revenue and not be able to use "under-utilization" as an excuse to shut down facilities that some veterans depend on.

"Clearly, there are things in President Bush's budget that we agree with, particularly regarding homeland security and national defense," said National Commander Richard J. Santos. "But there are areas of concern, especially when it comes to health care for our veterans."

Although The American Legion is still hoping to convince legislators to fund concurrent receipt, which would end the practice of offsetting military retirement pay to fund disability compensation, significant progress has been made in other areas.

A new poll showed that 75 percent of Americans support the

flag-protection amendment, and the Legion received more good news when an unpopular Bush administration proposal to charge Category 7 veterans a \$1,500-deductible for VA health care appears to have been quashed by lawmakers. The Legion also is fighting a proposal that would transfer the Veterans Employment and Training Service from the Department of Labor to VA.

VA Secretary Anthony Principi reported that VA is reducing the backlog of pending disability claims. "In January of this year, our workers decided a record number of claims, more than double of what was decided in January 2001. Well, the record didn't last long because we broke it again in February. In February 2002, we decided 62,900 claims, up from 28,900 in February 2001.

"We cannot rest until the time it takes to resolve a claim is no more than 100 days," Principi said.

Santos credited much of the Legion's success in Washington to the pressure Legionnaires exert upon lawmakers. "Your very presence here," he said, "sends a clear message to your elected officials that you have important information to share with them concerning issues that are critical to veterans and their families."

Legionnaires also heard from Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Myers said he was impressed with the support the American people have shown for U.S. troops during the war on terrorism. He also praised several American Legion programs.

"I'm particularly grateful for your (Sept. 11 Memorial Scholarship Fund), established to ensure that the children of those military men and women who died that day have a chance to go to college," he said. "I think all these programs are wonderful examples of your continuing service."

John Raughter is editor of The American Legion Magazine.

NAZI SILVER AT HALF PRICE!



This "Swastika" silver 2 Mark coin was hoarded during World War II. Most were later destroyed.

Was \$19.95 NOW \$9.95

When World War II erupted in 1939, the German government suspended the minting of this hard-asset silver coin. Most were later melted as emblems of the infamous Nazi regime. The 1936-1939 silver 2 mark portrayed the late President Hindenburg, who outpolled Hitler in the 1932 national election. Very Fine quality. \$9.95. 3 for \$28.50. 10 for \$89 (order #14340X). Add total of \$2 postage. 30-day home examination: money-back guarantee.

To order by credit card call toll-free.

Or send check or money order to:

International Coins & Currency

62 Ridge St., Dept. 4251

Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Order at **1-800-451-4463**

www.iccoin.net (many more great deals)

4251

Versatile New DR® FIELD and BRUSH MOWER...

cuts down and chops up tall, wiry field grasses **Plus!**
—even 2"-thick hardwood saplings!



• **RECLAIMS** meadows, roadsides, fencelines, trails, pond edges, and woodlots...any area too overgrown for ordinary mowers!

• **PIVOTING MOWER DECK** follows the ground without scalping. **MULCHES** most vegetation into small pieces — so there's nothing to trip over or pick up.

• **4-SPEEDS, POWER-REVERSE!** 9 to 15 HP with and without electric-starting!

LOADED WITH NEW FEATURES and options — built-in fuel gauge, hour meter, light, brakes!

MADE IN USA
GSA Approved

CONVERTS in seconds
without tools to a —



**Powerful SNOW
THROWER...**



**DOZER and
more!**

1-800-709-0278

YES! Please send me your **FREE** Catalog and Video about the new **DR® FIELD and BRUSH MOWER**, including models, powered attachments, and factory direct savings now in effect.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

DR® COUNTRY HOME PRODUCTS®, Dept. 43630X
Meigs Road, P.O. Box 25, Vergennes, VT 05491
www.drfieldbrush.com

© 2002 CHP, Inc.

Advertisement

NEED VIAGRA®?

Libido Lift™, a patent pending Viagra® alternative, contains a powerful blend of sex boosting ingredients that can make you an incredible lover at any age.

And best of all, it's confidential, now available without a prescription from your doctor at a fraction of the cost of expensive prescription drugs like Viagra®.

Libido Lift™ contains no harmful ingredients like Yohimbe or Andro, just the newest safest sexual enhancing nutrients from around the world.

It's truly the most effective supplement for increasing sexual desire on the market today without a prescription.

Whether you suffer from lack of desire, dysfunction or performance, Libido Lift™ works to stimulate blood flow to the specific areas of your body, especially the genital areas.

This means Libido Lift™ helps you correct the problems you may have suffered with for years.

No matter what your age is, research confirms the ingredients found in Libido Lift™ is nothing short of a miracle.

Unlike popular prescription medications which require planning intimacy an hour

before activity, the ingredients found in Libido Lift™ allow you to be more spontaneous with your partner.

Many people believe sexual dysfunction is inevitable with aging. That is simply not true. And now thanks to Libido Lift™, you too may have explosive, frequent sex daily.

Here are some of the results you too may experience from Libido Lift™:

- Increased blood flow to your genital area that helps
- Improves stamina and endurance
- Enhances performance and sex drive
- No more embarrassing moments
- Easy, Safe alternative to prescription drugs.

Isn't it time for you to rebuild your loveline?

Now you can try Libido Lift™ for 4 full months without risking one penny. In the unlikely event that you are dissatisfied for any reason we'll refund every penny - guaranteed.

You can be assured that all orders are 100% confidential, as the package will arrive in a plain brown envelope, discreetly labeled.

To receive your **180 capsules**, send \$29.95 plus \$4.98 postage and handling to:

AMAZING RESULTS:

Mr. A. J., of NY writes:

Prior to 1996 my sex life was pretty good...

Then in 1996 I had undergone open heart surgery and with complications was hospitalized for 6 months.

Since then and up until I started using "Libido Lift™" sex was NOT something I desired.

Thanks to your product, my partner and I can again enjoy our sexual relationship.

I now desire her and have the mind-set that I can and do satisfy my partner and myself when we are sexually intimate.

This product really works.

-- Yours truly,
A. J., New York

P.S. Libido Lift™ eliminates pre-planning an event therefore is a natural event, waiting to happen.



Natural Health Solutions, Dept. LL3503, 718 - 12th Street N.W., Box 24500, Canton, Ohio 44701.

Save \$20.86 and order 2 bottles (360 capsules) for only \$49 for a limited time only.

Or Call toll free at: **1-800-772-7285, Ext. LL3503.**

©2002 TCO LL0151S03

<http://www.trescocorp.com>

* Viagra® is a registered trademark of Pfizer. As a dietary supplement, this product has not been evaluated by the FDA and is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease. Consult a health care professional. Testimonials are atypical, your results may be more or less.

VA assists asbestos claims

VA compensates veterans for disabilities related to diseases or injuries incurred or aggravated during a period of active military service. Asbestos is an insulating material that was widely used in aircraft, vehicle parts, military buildings and Navy ships. Up until the late 1970s, the health danger of asbestos exposure was not officially recognized by the Department of Defense.

Recent medical studies have highlighted the long-term, potential risk of developing asbestosis, a restrictive lung disease, or mesothelioma, an asbestos-related form of lung cancer, even with a short period of exposure. The latency period for these diseases can be 10 to 40 years or more.

Veterans and their families need to know they have the right to seek VA compensation for asbestos-related disabilities or death. In any such claim, three things must eventually be established: a diagnosis of a current medical condition, such as asbestosis; evidence showing the veteran's military duties or activities would have involved possible exposure to asbestos; and finally, a medical opinion linking the current diagnosis to the history of in-service exposure.

Because of the complexities of the VA claims process, it is imperative that veterans and their families also know where to go for direct, personal assistance before



VA uses a Navy study to decide claims of Navy veterans, but other veterans have a harder time finding sufficient evidence of possible exposure to asbestos. *National Archives*

taking any action. The American Legion has a nationwide network of professional department service officers, or DSOs, located in each of the 58 VA regional offices, including Puerto Rico and the Philippines. Service is free and does not require Legion membership. DSOs can answer questions about VA benefits and act as the claimant's representative by providing advice and assistance in developing evidence needed to decide claims. This representation

continues if there is an appeal to the Board of Veterans Appeals. In an appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, the claimant can hire an attorney or apply for free legal representation through the Veterans Pro Bono Consortium, of which The American Legion is a member.

VA now uses a 1979 Navy study of all naval rates and their potential risk of asbestos exposure to decide claims of Navy veterans. It showed asbestos exposure was not limited to rates such as boiler tender or fire fighter but included those working on aircraft, construction and communications. However, for veterans of other service branches, sufficient evidence of possible exposure to asbestos is hard to find. This is where the experience and the expertise of DSOs can make a difference. They can do research through the Department of Defense or VA for information about the duties of the various military occupational specialties and the possibility of asbestos exposure.

In addition to seeking VA compensation, veterans with an asbestos-related disease, or their survivors, can file legal suits against the asbestos companies. Such action requires the services of an attorney. Anyone wishing to pursue this type of claim should contact his or her local Bar Association for a list of attorneys specializing in asbestos litigation.

DoD honors Osage, Iowa, Memorial Squad

Presenting military funeral honors is an 83-year tradition for Osage, Iowa's American Legion Post 278. Because of the post's faithful service, the Department of Defense recently honored the 39-member memorial squad with the prestigious Military Funeral Honors Certificate. Director of Military Funeral Honors Meg Falk, from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, presented the certificate.

No fewer than eight to 10 members present full military honors at each funeral the squad serves. A record like this and a memorial squad of 39 members is remarkable for a town of 4,000.



The 39-member memorial squad from Osage, Iowa's American Legion Post 278. *Courtesy Osage, Iowa, Post 278*

Hydrogen Peroxide Can Heal What?

(SPECIAL) – Medical science has discovered that hydrogen peroxide is more than just a disinfectant, it's an amazing healer. Many doctors are using hydrogen peroxide to treat a wide variety of serious ailments such as: **heart problems, clogged arteries, chest pain, allergies, asthma, migraine headaches, vascular headaches, cluster headaches, yeast infections, type II diabetes, emphysema, chronic pain syndromes, and more.**

Average consumers are also discovering that hydrogen peroxide has tons of health, beauty and household uses. A new handbook called *"The Amazing Health and Household Uses of Hydrogen Peroxide"* is now available to the general public. It shows you home remedies using diluted hydrogen peroxide and how to mix it with ordinary household items like baking soda, lemon, vinegar and salt to help:

- Soothe **ARTHRITIS PAIN**
- Make **SORE THROATS** feel better
- Ease the pain of **BEE STINGS** and **INSECT BITES**
- Dry up **ACNE**
- Treat **ATHLETE'S FOOT**
- Ease the **PAIN OF RHEUMATISM**
- Clear up **FUNGUS** and **MINOR INFECTIONS**
- Help treat minor **BURNS**
- Treat **BRUISES** and **RASHES**

• Soothe ACHING MUSCLES, JOINTS & SORE FEET

Hydrogen peroxide is truly amazing. Scientists have found it is involved in virtually all of life's vital processes. It stimulates the immune system, helps your body fight off viruses, parasites and bacteria. It also regulates hormones and is involved in the production of energy in the body's cells. And that's just a few of the incredible things it does.

It's also a great alternative to harsh toxic chemicals and cleaners around the house. *"The Amazing Health and Household Uses of Hydrogen Peroxide"* also shows you how to whip up easy peroxide recipes for:

- A powerful bleaching formula for formica
- A fantastic homemade scouring powder
- The perfect drain cleaner for clogged drains
- A dishwasher detergent that makes dishes gleam
- An oven cleaner that eliminates elbow grease
- A great rust remover formula
- A tile cleaner that works like magic
- A little known formula that really cleans old porous tubs
- A solution to help house and garden plants flourish
- Use this formula to clean your pets
- This spray keeps a leftover salad fresher
- Ever wonder what happens to meats and

fish before you bring them home? Here's a safety-wash for meat and fish

- A spray that's great for sprouting seeds
- Here's a sanitizing vegetable soak
- A denture soak that works great
- A tooth whitener that makes teeth sparkle
- A super polish for copper and brass
- A spot lifter for coffee, tea and wine stains

You'll learn all this and more in this remarkable book. In addition, you also get an extensive list of qualified doctors across the United States and even some in Canada who regularly use hydrogen peroxide in their practices to treat serious ailments.

Right now you can receive a special press run of *"The Amazing Health and Household Uses of Hydrogen Peroxide"* for only \$8.95 plus \$1.00 postage and handling. You must be completely satisfied, or simply return it in 90 days for a **full refund**.

HERE'S HOW TO ORDER: Simply PRINT your name and address and the words "Hydrogen Peroxide" on a piece of paper and mail it along with a check or money order for only \$9.95 to: THE LEADER CO., INC., Publishing Division, Dept. HP509, P.O. Box 8347, Canton, OH 44711. VISA, MasterCard, or Discover send card number and expiration date. Act now. Orders are fulfilled on a first come, first served basis. © 2002 The Leader Co., Inc.

HATS PATCHES PINS SHIRTS MEDALS BELTS HATS PATCHES PINS SHIRTS

Scrambled Eggs \$7.95
Double Eggs \$9.95

PAYBACK TIME
9-11 2001
GOOD LUCK IN HELL

STOCK STARTING AT \$15.95
CUSTOM \$29.95

COMBAT UNIT HATS CLASSIC WARBIRDS

100 PAGE COLOR CATALOG \$5.95
Mail to Military Matters, Inc. • Dept. ALBT-5
1304 Portland Ave. • Rochester, NY 14621
TEL. 585-544-1610 or 1 (877)-647-0680 • FAX 585-544-1751
www.militarymatters.com

ALL DIVISIONS...ALL AIR FORCES...ALL SHIPS...ALL WARS...ALL WARBIRDS...ALL ARTILLERY...ALL ARMOR...ALL THE TIME!



"Space-A" condominium rentals **exclusively** for veterans of the US Armed Forces.

\$249 per week – flat rate!

**No membership fees.
No dues. No gimmicks.**

**Just the best possible
vacation value for US Vets!**

1. Check Availability at
www.veteransholidays.com

2. Find a date & resort condo.

3. 1-877-772-2322 to reserve.

**Over 16,000 "Space-A"
vacations reserved to date.**

Start saving today!

**When making a reservation,
use Offer Number 600**

Brought to you by **CENDANT**

Sept. 2001 – See www.veteransholidays.com
for full details, policies and procedures.
Not affiliated with the US Government.

URGENT! RETIRED MILITARY

• WIDOWED DEPENDENT • LEGAL DEPENDENT OF RETIRED MILITARY

- Were You Promised **FREE** Medical Care for Life? • Do You Have to Deduct Your VA Check from Your Retirement Check? • Do You Think the Military Divorce Laws are Unfair? **IF SO, THEN READ THIS...**

We are conducting class action suits for retired military personnel regarding: no-cost, earned medical/dental care for life; Concurrent receipt of both VA Disability pay and Retirement pay; and the USFSPA (Uniform Services Former Spouse Protection Act.) Please contact this office for more information. We are a general law practice – medical malpractice, family law, real estate, criminal law, etc...



Sean P. Campbell,
M.D., J.D.

CAMPBELL & JONES

Attorneys at Law

126 East Main Plaza • San Antonio, Texas 78205

Fax: (210) 227-4229 **(210) 224-1923**

www.thetexasfirm.net • email: jpjones@thetexasfirm.com

Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization



Philip E. Jones, J.D.
USA Retired

Alabama senior wins National Oratorical Contest



Candice Neal of Eva, Ala., won top honors at the 65th annual National Oratorical Championship. *James V. Carroll*

With poise well beyond her years and a delivery both passionate and confident, Candice April Neal took the audience at the 65th annual American Legion National High School Oratorical Championship on an historical journey of the U.S. government.

The senior from Albert P. Brewer High School, Eva, Ala., spoke of the drafting of the Constitution, defending that sacred document, the duty of Americans to participate in government, staying abreast of current events and continuing the work of America's founding fathers.

A national semifinalist in last year's contest, Neal, sponsored by Morgan County Post 15, Decatur, Ala., was awarded the first-place prize of an \$18,000 college scholarship with her speech entitled "The

Constitution: A Fantastic Journey." The competition took place at University Place Conference Center and Hotel on the campus of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis April 13 to 14.

In her speech, Neal encouraged her fellow Americans to stay informed on current events. When that happens, she said, more participation is sure to follow.

Second-place winner Jacquelyn Evans of Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton, Calif., earned a \$16,000 scholarship, while Scott Chaloff of Chestnut Hill, Mass., finished third, earning a \$14,000 college scholarship. Evans was sponsored by East Bay Woman's Post 279, Temple City, Calif. Chaloff was sponsored by William G. Walsh Post 369, Dorchester, Mass.

Other contestants advancing to the semifinals and their Legion sponsors were Adam Ward of Cabot, Ark., Crisswell-Robinson Post 71; Eric Trivett of Lawrenceville, Ga., Sawyer-Herndon Post 232; Megan Wykes of Plano, Ill., Leon Burson Post 395; Matthew Vandenberg of Bossier City, La., Post 191; Joshua Johnson of Flower Mound, Texas, Denton Post 71; and Shealene Hansen of Roosevelt, Utah, Basin Post 64.

Ward and Vandenberg were 2001 department winners.

Each of the 53 department champions earned a \$1,500 scholarship. The six semifinalists who did not advance to the finals earned an additional \$1,500 each. The scholarships account for a small portion of the roughly \$3.5 million in post-secondary scholarships the Legion awards annually.

The Legion developed the oratorical contest to encourage young people to improve their communications skills and to study the U.S. Constitution. Since its inception, the Legion has awarded more than \$2 million in scholarships through the competition.



George P. Roese
V.P. Corporate Development

One Veteran to Another...

I Know Impotence...Let SOMA Blue help you feel like a young man again.

After my retirement from the Armed Forces, I wanted to work in a field that enhanced men's lives, one that made a difference. Little did I know that I would eventually be seeking the solution that I have strongly encouraged others to purchase over the past 12 years. SOMA Blue has over three decades of experience with erectile dysfunction!

SOMA Blue products are FDA registered and are approved by Medicare and most Secondary Insurance Companies - which means **NO** out-of-pocket expense to you. Products are discreetly shipped to your door. So why wait another day to live your life to the fullest? Call one of our trained clinical specialists today to learn more. I am so confident that you'll find our product beneficial that we offer an **unconditional, risk-free, 90-day money back guarantee.**

Sincerely,

George P. Roese

George P. Roese, CPT (P), Ret.
Vice President Corporate Development
Veteran of the Armed Forces

*Ask about our NO Money
Out-of-pocket Program.*

SOMABLUE
Medical Systems
The Miracle of Simplicity™

You deserve the best SOMA Blue vacuum therapy products deliver...

- Spontaneous/Immediate Results
Create an erection in less than 1½ minutes!
- Controllable - begin/end the erection when YOU desire!
- Predictable/Consistent - each time, every time!
- Cost Effective - Little or **NO** cost, Lifetime Warranty
- Safe and Effective - **NO** Pills, **NO** Implants, **NO** Injections, **NO** Drugs - NATURAL PROCESS!
- Medicare & Secondary Insurance Filing, Prescription Assistance

Call (800) 827-8382 or visit www.somablue.com for information and online ordering.

FNBO offers new VISA card options



First National Bank Omaha,
the financial-services provider for

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call **1-866-LGN-VISA**
(866-546-8472)
Refer to promotional
code **26709**

The American Legion, is unveiling a new service for Legionnaires. In addition to the classic blue American Legion VISA cards, FNBO now offers Legion VISA cards imprinted with insignias from all branches of military service: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy. Every purchase made with a Legion VISA card supports programs such as Boys Nation, American Legion Baseball and the National Oratorical Contest.

Join us!

The American Legion is an organization of veterans serving veterans, their families and communities. The Legion serves as the veteran's voice in Washington, fighting for the benefits and rights of those who served our country in the armed forces.

Membership eligibility is based upon dates set forth by Congress. Eligibility dates are from 4/6/17 to 11/11/18; 12/7/41 to 12/31/46; 6/25/50 to 1/31/55; 2/28/61 to 5/7/75; 8/24/82 to 7/31/84; 12/20/89 to 1/31/90; and from 8/2/90 to present.

For membership information:

The American Legion
Attn: Membership Division
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206-1055

Call toll-free: (800) 433-3318

E-mail: ia@legion.org

Visit the Web site:

www.legion.org/membership/membership.htm

For information about affiliate organizations:

Sons of The American Legion
John Kerestian, (317) 630-1321

The American Legion Auxiliary
Membership, (317) 955-3845

18 HP DR® CHIPPER

—Professional Power for Homeowners!

- A homeowner-sized and -priced version of the chippers road-crews use...the DR® CHIPPER has **2-3 times** the power of typical homeowner machines.
- Makes ugly brush piles, fallen branches, tops from felled trees **DISAPPEAR FAST!**
- Turns hardwood branches up to 4-1/2" thick into valuable landscape mulch **in seconds!**
- **ROAD-TOWABLE** Models, Electric-Starting available. Lower-priced 10 HP and 12 HP models, too!

So, **WHY STRUGGLE**
with an underpowered
teeth-rattling chipper/shredder
originally designed for grinding
up garden wastes as opposed
to heavy-chipping?

MADE IN USA



TOLL-FREE 1-800-709-0278

YES! Please rush complete **FREE** DETAILS of the Professional-Power **DR® CHIPPERS**, including prices and specifications of features and options, plus Factory-Direct Savings now in effect.

Name _____ AML
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

DR® COUNTRY HOME PRODUCTS®, Dept. 43632X
Meigs Road, P.O. Box 25, Vergennes, VT 05491
www.drchipper.com

©2002 Chp. Inc.

Surround yourself with music, not equipment.



Music should be heard, not seen. That's the whole notion behind the Bose® Acoustic Wave® music system. It measures less than a foot tall, yet with Bose patented waveguide speaker technology it delivers full, clear sound. In fact, upon its introduction *Stereo Review* wrote that it had "possibly the best-reproduced sound many people have ever heard." The system, which is available in Platinum White or Graphite Gray, features a CD player, an AM/FM tuner, built-in speakers and a



For a **FREE**
Pedestal
order by
Sept. 30, 2002.

handy remote control. And it's available directly from Bose, the most respected name in sound. So call for more information about our 30-day in-home trial. Take advantage of our installment plan and make 12 low interest-free monthly payments.* Order now and you'll even get a free Pedestal with inputs for your TV, VCR, DVD player and another music source. The Pedestal is a \$149.95 value that will help you enjoy sound that fills the room, from the system that doesn't.

Call today, 1-800-726-2073, ext. G5351.

For information on all our products: www.bose.com/g5351

BOSE®
Better sound through research®

©2002 Bose Corporation. Patent rights issued and/or pending. The Acoustic Wave® music system design is also a trademark of Bose Corporation. *Installment payment plan and free Pedestal offer not to be combined with any other offer or applied to previous purchases. Payment plan available on credit card orders only and subject to change without notice. Quote: Julian Hirsch, *Stereo Review*, 3/85.

How to Submit a Reunion

The *American Legion Magazine* publishes reunion notices for veterans. Send notices to **The American Legion Magazine, Attn: Comrades Editor, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206**, fax (317) 630-1280 or e-mail reunions@legion.org.

Include the branch of service and complete name of the group, no abbreviations, with your request. The listing also should include the reunion dates and city, along with a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. Listings are published free of charge.

Due to the large number of reunions, *The American Legion Magazine* will publish a group's listing only once a year. Notices should be sent at least six months prior to the reunion to ensure timely publication.

Other Notices

"In Search Of" is primarily a means of getting in touch with people from your unit to plan a reunion. Listings must include the name of the unit from which you seek people, the time period and the location, as

well as a contact name, address, telephone number and e-mail address. Send notices to **The American Legion Magazine, Attn: Comrades Editor, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206**, fax (317) 630-1280 or e-mail reunions@legion.org. The magazine will not publish the names of individuals, only the name of the unit from which you seek people. Listings are published free of charge.

Life Membership notices are published for Legionnaires who have been awarded life memberships by their posts. This does not include a member's own Paid-Up-For-Life membership. Notices must be submitted on official forms, which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to **The American Legion Magazine, Attn: Life Memberships, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206**.

"Comrades in Distress" listings must be approved by the Legion's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation division. If you are seeking to verify an injury received during service, contact your Legion department service officer for information on how to publish a notice.

"Taps" notices are published only for Legionnaires who served as department commanders or national officers.

AIR FORCE

8th AF 1st Strt Air Dep, New Orleans, 9/26-29, Warren Stanley, (408) 248-8627, wstanley@neteze.com; **8th Avn Field Depot Sqdn**, Omaha, NE, 9/19-22, Leonard Janke, (402) 385-2494; **9th AF 368th Ftr Grp**, Seattle, 9/19-22, Randolph Goulding, (678) 333-0241, rgoulding@jig.com; **15th AF 463rd Bomb Grp**, Scottsdale, AZ, 9/18-9/22, Art Mendelsohn, (818) 790-3722; **48th Ftr Sqdn/Ftr Interceptor Sqdn/Flying Tng Sqdn Assn**, Columbus AFB, 10/23-27, Joseph Onesty, (562) 431-2901, jonesty2@juno.com; **80th Ftr Grp**, Oklahoma City, 10/2-5, Charles Hughes, (405) 799-3201; **309th Fight Sqdn 31st Ftr Grp**, Branson, MO, 9/25-28, Dalton Smith, (201) 385-4950; **390th Bomb Grp H**, Harrisburg, PA, 9/24-29, Ken Rowland, (509) 467-2565, rowlandr@mindspring.com; **551st AEW&C Wing**, Plymouth, MA, 10/31-11/2, James Collins, (508) 746-5713, easy12@adelphia.net; **601st TCW**, Frankenmuth, MI, 9/30-10/3, John Haggard, (520) 298-2805, haphagg@juno.com; **836th Eng Avn Bn**, Chattanooga, TN, 9/12-14, Robert Skellenger, (770) 748-7752, reunion836eab@aol.com

934th Sig Bn 5th Comm Grp, Kissimmee, FL, 10/9-12, Roger Marquard, (352) 429-8822, rogermary1@prodigy.net; **3081st Av Dept Grp**, Rapid City, SD, 9/11-14, Bill Braughler, (814) 723-2669, brock1@westpa.net; **A-10 Warthog**, Myrtle Beach, SC, 6/22-23, Donald Ollis, (843) 347-6248, dodo31@sccost.net; **AF Project Black Spot**, Ft. Walton Beach, FL, 10/11-14, Floyd Hampton, (916) 722-1378, fwhampton@earthlink.net; **Air Commando Assn**, Ft. Walton Beach, FL, 10/10-13, (850) 581-0099, aircommando1@earthlink.net; **Pilot Class 43K**, St. Louis, 9/19-23, Hal Jacobs, (858) 485-9422, jakes43k@aol.com; **Spectre Assn AC-130**, Ft. Walton Beach, FL, 1/10-11, Jim Thrasher, (850) 897-4242, thrasherlima22@aol.com

ARMY

1st Arm Cav 1st Sqdn C Trp, Ft. Knox, KY, 8/27-9/1, Carl Wronko, (973) 361-4157, carlwf1945@prodigy.net; **2nd Inf Div 23rd Inf Rgt F Co**, San Antonio, 9/8-12, John Rider, (717) 848-5222; **11th Eng Vets**, Asheville, NC, 9/10-12, Robert Tippet, (614) 885-7872; **21st Evac Hosp**, Plymouth, IN, 8/1-3, Robert Murphy, (760) 728-7245; **21st Mobile Maint Co**, Mercer, PA, 9/6-8, Fred Flory, (937) 855-6202, wjflory@aol.com; **24th Cbt Map Sqdn**, Detroit, 9/22-25, Les Bryan, (254) 876-2070, popbryan@prodigy.net; **24th Inf Div 21st 34th Inf Grp**, Charleston, WV, 5/20-25, Harry Wittman Jr., (304) 788-0465; **31st Inf Rgt Assn Polar Bears**, Oakland, PA, 8/16-19, Jerry Carlson, (915) 751-4865, jcarlpasso@aol.com; **34th Inf Div Sig Co**, Watertown, SD, 8/16-18, Melvin Otto, (605) 886-3930; **45th Inf Div 279th Inf Rgt**, Wagoner, OK, 10/18-20, Lee E. Fry, (918) 251-8842; **62nd Eng Topo Co**, Newport, TN, 9/17-20, Roland Turley, (814) 765-8910, rturley@iqnetsys.net; **73rd Eng Cbt Bn**, Monticello, IA, 8/24, Howard Kurth, (319) 465-4289; **84th Ord Depot WWII**, Reno, NV, 8/12, C. Charters, (360) 421-2480

86th Eng Heavy Pont Bn, Canandaigua, NY, 9/25-29, Philip Wax, (215) 491-4188, philhelw@aol.com; **90th Inf Div, 90th Army Rsv Cmd/Res Svc Cmd**, Little Rock, AR, 8/29-9/1, J. Reid, (630) 789-0204; **97th Inf Div 386th Inf Rgt 2nd Bn E Co**, Philadelphia, 5/30-6/2, George Hellwig, (937) 293-0892; **101st 503rd MP Bns WWII**,

Niagara Falls, NY, 9/1-6, Harvey Miller, (727) 786-3529, fdny158@juno.com; **101st Abn Div 1st Bde**, Ft. Worth, TX, 10/12-15, Ivan Worrell, (423) 337-3612, worrell@usit.net; **103rd Inf Div**, Dallas, 9/25-29, Mel Wright, (713) 465-0814; **109th Eng Cbt Bn WWII**, Rapid City, SD, 9/12-15, Clarence Carsner, (605) 343-2708; **159th Eng Cbt Bn**, Asheville, NC, 9/12-15, Russell Ruch, (570) 622-2942; **160th Eng Cbt Bn**, Louisville, KY, 10/3-6, Max Roberts, (561) 466-1493; **243rd Port Co**, Savannah, GA, 8/29-31, Melvin Jacobson, (814) 723-6278; **273rd FA Bn WWII**, Norfolk, NE, 8/16-18, Douglas Eichberger, (402) 582-3388; **291st Eng C Bn**, Norfolk, VA, 9/12-16, Patrick Martin, (919) 781-0857, acemar@aol.com; **440th/465th/467th/472nd Sig Bns**, Hot Springs, AR, 10/8-9, Richard Fluke, (814) 928-5041, richardfluke@hotmail.com; **507th Eng Hwy Shop Co**, Branson, MO, 9/15, J. Chastain, (864) 859-7019; **534th EBSR**, Frankenmuth, MI, 10/1-3, Jan Turner, (989) 685-2882, jturner@m33access.com; **553rd Eng Heavy Pontoon Bn**, Green Bay, WI, 9/20-21, Allie O'Connell, (920) 435-9760; **573rd AAA AW (SP)**, White Bear Lake, MN, 9/10-12, Ken Jarvis, (651) 784-6321, mknkjarv@aol.com; **804th Eng Avn Bn**, Reno, NV, 9/29-10/1, Frank Ceriani, (724) 846-0684, ceriani@bellatlantic.net

COAST GUARD

USS Casper, PF 12, Charleston, SC, 8/28-31, Robert Dewitt, (559) 291-5424; **USS Peoria**, PF 67, Biloxi, MS, 10/1-3, Kenneth Silfka, (922) 382-3160; **USS Racine**, PF 100, Charleston, SC, 8/28-9/1, George Bock, (727) 535-9563

JOINT

Operation Deep Freeze, Pensacola, FL, 11/6-8, Les Liptak, (850) 492-1666, lliptak@hightec.com; **USS Saint Paul**, **USS Minneapolis-Saint Paul**, CA 73/SSN 708, Portland, OR, 8/27, J.D. Guarnere, (409) 722-8807; **USS Tuscaloosa**, **USS Wichita Assn (Crew and Mar Dets)**, CA 37/CA 45, Tuscaloosa, AL, 9/29-10/5, Walter V. Marquis, (803) 788-5262; **War Brides of WWII**, Costa Mesa, CA, 9/21-24, Josie Dodge, (303) 366-8962

MARINES

7th Eng Bn FMF, Atlantic City, NJ, 9/19-20, Todd Abbott, (215) 682-7663, juners@aol.com; **D-2-7**, Lafayette, LA, 9/18-22, Don Pennington, (207) 584-2195, fromaway@aol.com; **MABS-12**, Reno, NV, 9/18-22, David Prendergast, (707) 443-4463, dprendergast@eurekalaw.com; **MACS-9**, Silverthorne, CO, 8/15-18, Thomas Boyle, (319) 366-0012, tboyle621@aol.com; **Seagoing Mar Assn**, Branson, MO, 11/7-11, Byron Babbitt, (563) 785-4470; **VMB-612/MAG-61**, Las Vegas, 9/29-10/3, Joel Krensky, (800) 972-7777, marines@colpittswt.com; **VMSB-243**, Kansas City, KS, 9/19-22, Thomas Schmidt, (858) 258-3817

NAVY

63rd NCB, Bloomington, IL, 8/29-9/2, John E. Morris, (262) 569-0770, 63rdseabee@ameritech.net; **Americans in Golcuk, Turkey**, Baltimore, 8/7-11, Ray Casey, (800) 672-0456, nationalplanners@hotmail.com; **Fleet Hosp 108 MOB 8 BEV 56**, St. Louis, 9/19-22, Alfred Spence, (314) 544-1173; **LGI-732**, Branson, MO, 9/22-24, Richard Bresnahan, (507) 934-1252; **NAFTS**, Washington, 8/29-9/1, Ray Casey, (800) 672-0456, nationalplanners@hotmail.com; **NAS New York**,

Virginia Beach, VA, 10/17-20, Chet Atkinson, (757) 495-1338; **SNAG-56**, Lancaster, PA, 9/22-26, W. Huston, (616) 942-2503, wjayhust1@juno.com; **USS Alcor**, AD 34/AR 10, Kissimmee, FL, 9/29-10/2, George O'Hare, (561) 461-2857; **USS Almaack**, KA 27/AKA 10, Manchester, NH, 9/5-9, Elmer Twitchell, (201) 342-7614, heynjr@aol.com; **USS Barton**, DD 722, Norfolk, VA, 9/11-15, Gene Palinski, (419) 433-2778, dd722ski@aol.com; **USS Bexar**, APA/LPA 237, Charleston, SC, 9/26-29, Bob Weiss, (631) 399-1717, ussbexar@surfbest.net; **USS Boise**, CL 47, Niagara Falls, NY, 9/26-28, Robert Dorfield, (215) 673-7086; **USS Cabot**, CVL 28, Mobile, AL, 10/9-13, Barrett Frink, (860) 928-7437; **USS Colonial**, LSD 18, Charleston, SC, 9/18-21, James Roberts, (615) 833-4948, lsd18@aol.com; **USS David W. Taylor**, DD 551, Peoria, IL, 10/3-5, Richard Roelofs, (661) 252-3910, rvroelofs@prodigy.net; **USS Davis**, DD 937, Laurel, MD, 10/3-6, Carl Ross, (727) 847-0242, cnmross@aol.com; **USS Diodon**, SS 349, Duluth, MN, 9/17-21, Don Remily, (417) 532-1676, ldremily@jmbc.net

USS Frederick Funston, APA 89, St. Louis, 9/29-10/2, Walter Schwarting, (262) 367-0055, saltyv10@aol.com; **USS Genesee**, AOG 8, Lancaster, PA, 10/6-9, William Waller Jr., (757) 464-6553, newwallr@aol.com; **USS Geneva**, APA 86, Warrensburg, MO, 5/30-6/1, Hubert Jones, (660) 7471245; **USS Greenwich Bay**, AVP 41, Mystic, CT, 10/21-23, Neal Bancroft, (937) 548-1702, nealliona@wesnet.com; **USS Growler**, SSG 577, San Diego, 9/27-29, David Bishop, (323) 254-6045, bsbshop@lausd.k12.ca.us; **USS Hamner**, DD 718, Braintree, MA, 8/1-4, Joe Bruzese, (781) 834-4477; **USS Henrico**, APA 45, Branson, MO, 9/23-26, Don Orrell, (816) 353-4357, dnorger@att.net; **USS Hope**, AH 7, New Orleans, 9/5-7, Mary Biegen, (505) 294-2111; **USS Jarvis**, DD 799, Baltimore, 10/17-19, Bill Lamb, (215) 637-8147, lammyyb@aol.com; **USS John Rodgers**, DD 574, Madison, WI, 8/29-9/2, Jack Mindock, (815) 883-8443; **USS LaPorte**, APA 151, Salt Lake City, 9/26-28, John H. Warner, (607) 722-1342; **USS LCS (L) 1-130**, Virginia Beach, VA, 9/18-21, Keith Reid, (801) 295-0909, keithreid@juno.com

USS Leary, DD 158, Virginia Beach, VA, 9/18-22, John Morrison, (703) 356-6173; **USS LSMR 515**, Lake Placid, NY, 9/8-13, Floyd Noreault, (518) 483-2394; **USS LST 482**, Branson, MO, 10/7-9, Bill Hawkins, (602) 482-1808, azdude5@cox.net; **USS LST 586**, Muskegon, MI, 9/10-12, Richard Colehour, (815) 244-3152, colehour@essex1.com; **USS LST 687**, Lancaster, PA, 9/22-24, Arthur Kilvitis, (570) 457-5506; **USS Markab**, AD 21/AR 23, Winter Haven, FL, 10/10-12, Rev. William J. Campbell Sr., (941) 575-6829, wjcampbellnsd@earthlink.net; **USS McKean**, DD/DDR 784, Newport, RI, 10/19-22, Bill McKenzie, (412) 221-1629, mckenzie@pghmail.com; **USS Merit**, DD 691, Biloxi, MS, 10/10-13, Jim Powell, (864) 445-5058; **USS Nassau**, CVE 16, St. Louis, 9/18-21, Sam Moore, (909) 795-6070; **USS Navaro**, APA 215, San Mateo, CA, 10/10-14, Kenneth Bell, (650) 341-1097, cwobell@aol.com; **USS Neches**, AO 47/AO 5, Cleveland, 9/5-8, Ed Anderson, (425) 821-9456, trains8133@msn.com; **USS Olsen**, DE 765, Indianapolis, 9/19-21, Ralph Shersmith, (812) 422-8870

USS Otter, DE 210, Myrtle Beach, SC, 10/14-17, Ralph Daum, (708) 258-6165, rdraum@juno.com; **USS Pasadena**, CL 65, Las Vegas, 9/3-5, Andy Vechter, (724) 537-2532; **USS Prince William**, New Orleans, 10/7-11,

George Norton, (626) 332-5697, gno1381525@aol.com; **USS Prometheus, AR 3**, Peoria, IL, 10/11-14, Arne Brinwall, (952) 933-0616; **USS Quincy, CA 71**, Baltimore, 8/29-9/1, Bill Applier, (410) 549-0970; **USS Rehoboth, AVP/AGS 50**, Branson, MO, 9/26-29, Ross Carlson, (740) 363-4605, rcaptainsea@aol.com; **USS Satyr, ARL 23**, San Antonio, 9/29-10/3, Mel Bennett, (310) 326-5091, mbennett3@socal.rr.com; **USS Savage, DE/DER 386**, Galveston, TX, 9/29-10/4, Edwin Hopfgarten, (727) 392-8343; **USS Savannah, CL 42**, Orlando, FL, 9/11-15, K. Peloguin, (352) 728-5587; **USS Schenck, DD 159**, Virginia Beach, VA, 9/18-22, John Morrison, (703) 356-6173; **USS Stevens**, Portland, OR, 8/22-26, Ray Casey, (800) 672-0456, nationalplanners@hotmail.com; **USS Susan B. Anthony, AP 72**, Groton, CT, 10/17-20, Debbie Provost, (860) 935-5262, lene@kiskinet.net; **USS Tautog, SS 199/SSN 639**, Duluth, MN, 9/16-21, Jimmy Mersch, (651) 455-1874, jimmylinda@usfamily.net; **USS Taylor, DD/DDE 468**, Washington, 8/26-30, Otto Zipt, (703) 257-5474, pozip@cs.com

USS Torrance, AKA 76, San Diego, 10/23-27, A. Pifer, (760) 772-8486; **USS Trout, SS 566**, Mt Pleasant, SC, 12/4-7, Art Salomon, (845) 794-0336, art@usstroutss566.com; **USS Tucson, CL 98/SSN 770**, Scranton, PA, 9/23-25, James Murphy, (609) 208-9938, jim.murphy@webtv.net; **USS Wharton, AP 7**, Kansas City, MO, 10/2-6, William Mitchell, (815) 654-2218; **USS William P. Biddle, APA 8**, San Antonio, 10/30-11/3, Don Skouse, (816) 478-3403; **VAH-1**, Charleston, SC, 11/1-3, Ruben Kluksdahl, (804) 598-4379, rube-k@msn.com; **VP-44/VPB-44/VP-204/VPB-204/VPMS-4**, Brunswick, ME, 9/19-22, Marcus Reed, (207) 566-5765, liverone@hotmail.com; **VPB-16**, Pensacola, FL, 10/3-6, Gloria McDaniel, (901) 682-7970

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Life Membership notices are published for Legionnaires who have been awarded Life Memberships by their posts. Life Membership notices must be submitted on official forms, which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Life Memberships, The American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Post 106, CA: Joe Bass, Carmelo Berlinger, Duane Bickle, James Brady, James Harrison, Floyd Hollinger, Kenneth Letteer, Eugene Littrell, Don Montgomery, John Noble
Post 197, CT: Carl H. Carlson, Raymond J. Theobald;
Post 10, FL: Kinchen D. Barker, William E. Buck, Gerald Busby, Alfred L. Calimer, George L. Griffen, Paul E. Hensley, Billy D. Hudson, Lyle V. Lokken, Ralph M. Meston, Vincent P. Miller, Robert Shuttera, Frederick M. Sproat, Emory K. Wilf
Post 303, FL: Robert E. Casper, John A. Cox, Harold K. Dean, Robert W. Hashbarger, Rudolph E. Zannoni
Post 105, IL: Richard L. Bush
Post 82, IN: John A. Perry
Post 62, KY: Alton Atwood, Ray D. Austin, Hobart Bailey, James H. Beach, Charles A. Belcher, James M. Bradford, William J. Calvert, John Caravella, Harvey Clendening Jr., Michael G. Coursey, Jack H. Downey, Glen D. Evans, James W. Fagg, John M. Forshae, Harold W. Graves, Jerry W. Gregory, Daniel F. Grogan, Leonard Groves, Paul T. Holleman, Lee R. Hughes Jr., Jerd E. Johnson, Walton Joiner, James L. Link, Raymond Malchow, William I. McDonald, James L. Miller, John E. Montgomery, Calvin J. Oshesky, Stacey Pennington, Raymond A. Perdue, Julian Pitts, Warren Rosdeutscher, Joe D. Stoll, John W. Thornton, Cleon Tuck, Robert E. Turley, Marvin M. Turner, Dennis R. Uhls, Ronnie Marr Werner, Charlie White, Kenneth Whitlock, Roger L. Williams, William H. Young Jr.
Post 5, MI: Herb Swanbeck
Post 8, MI: Lavern R. Kuhr
Post 359, NJ: Alfred F. Gisonti, Joseph F. Stolarz
Post 5, NV: William N. Sidener
Post 1066, NY: Robert H. Marquardt, Clifford Palmer
Post 1711, NY: Raymond Berry, Henry To
Post 56, OR: Donald E. Dahl
Post 147, PA: Will L. Ketner
Post 820, PA: Henry P. Ford, David J. Hysong

IN SEARCH OF

2nd Bn Mess, 6th Inf Rgt. Anyone who served in Berlin between 1955 and July 1957, contact Robert Johnson at (623) 546-3410 or e-mail robersabel@aol.com.
4th Inf Div, COC 39th Inf. Anyone who served at Ft. Lewis, Wash., between 1960 and 1963, contact

Nelrain L. Myers, 612 Wall St., Albemarle, NC 28001 or call (704) 982-7879.

4th Missile Bn, 28th Art. Anyone who served in Ansbach, Germany, between 1960 and 1963, contact Doug Schlumbohm at (321) 255-1994 or e-mail sindiahoma@aol.com.

8th Trans Co, Light Heli, CH 21. Anyone who served, contact Marvin A. Farmer Jr., 1611 Avondale Drive, Altavista, VA 24517, call (434) 369-7167 or e-mail mafj1234@cs.com.

35th Trans Corps. Anyone who served in Newcastle, Australia, in 1944, contact Bill Lind, 3671 West Brule Lake Road, Iron River, MI 49935, call (906) 265-3990 or e-mail blmayer@webtv.net.

85th AAA, HQ Btry. Anyone who served on Okinawa between September 1952 and October 1954, contact Ronald Rengel, 913 Ridge Ave., Mundelein, IL 60060 or call (847) 566-0529.

385th Port Bn. Anyone who served in Khorramshahr, Iran, between 1943 and 1945, contact Cornelius Hanley, P.O. Box 161, Stuyvesant Falls, NY 12174 or e-mail guildlaxlover@aol.com.

1019th Eng Treadway Bridge Co. Anyone who served in Europe in 1945, contact Charles H. Fankboner at (619) 460-4870 or e-mail cfankboner@webtv.net.

A Co, 2nd Bn, 12th Inf Rgt, 1st Inf Div. Anyone who served at Fort Riley, Kan., between 1961 and 1963, e-mail C.E. Moy at moy3rd@hotmail.com.

B Co, 12th Inf Div. Anyone who served in Gia Dinh, Vietnam, in 1968, contact John Brottlund, 2832 Prairie Lake Road, Tomahawk, WI 54487, call (715) 453-5748 or e-mail brottlundj@tomahawk.k12.wi.us.

Casual Co, 1st Mar Amph Corps, Fleet Mar Force. Any Marines who served on New Caledonia between March 7, 1944, and April 8, 1944, contact Charles B. Fisher, 6 Town-Country Park, Carrollton, KY 41008, call (502) 732-5487 or e-mail cbfisher@email.com.

E Co, 1st Bn, 16th Inf Rgt, 1st Inf Div. Anyone who served at Fort Riley, Kan., between 1963 and 1964, e-mail C.E. Moy at moy3rd@hotmail.com.

Flight 1665. Anyone who went through basic training at Sampson Air Force Base in Romulus, N.Y., between April and June 1952, contact Howard D.

Hoke, P.O. Box 39, Mount Lipton, NY 13809, call (607) 764-8419 or e-mail handehoke@hotmail.com.

USS French, DE 367. Anyone who served aboard between Sept. 21, 1945, and July 1946, contact Milton O. Baker, R.R. 1, Box 286A, Machias, ME 04654 or call (207) 255-4895.

USS Sperry, AS 12. Anyone who served between 1942 and 1982, contact Jim Taylor, 4109 Shoreline Circle #81, Virginia Beach, VA 23452, call (757) 463-2804 or e-mail as12usn@cs.com.

USS Susan B. Anthony, AP 72. Anyone who served as a nurse in April or May 1944, contact Paul T. Forney, 833 County Road, Saltsburg, PA 15681, call (724) 639-9949 or e-mail lene@kiskinet.net.

TAPS

R. Gerald Barr, Dept. of Michigan. Dept. Cmdr. 1949-1950, Nat'l Transp. Cmte. Memb. 1950-1951, Nat'l Un-American Activ. Cmte. Memb. 1951-1952, Nat'l Housing Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1952-1954, Alt. Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1955-1957, Nat'l Rehab. Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1957-1958, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 1957-1959 and Nat'l Economic Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 1958-1959.

Robert L. Klipstine, Dept. of Ohio. Nat'l Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte. 1971-1972 and 1974-1976, Nat'l Distinguished Guests Cmte. 1973-1974 and 1976-1977, Dept. Cmdr. 1976-1977, Nat'l Naval Affairs Cmte. Memb. 1977-1994, Nat'l Law & Order Cmte. Memb. 1981-1982, Aide to Nat'l Cmdr. 1992-1993, Nat'l Historian 1998-1999, Nat'l Naval Affairs Cmte. Chmn. 1994-1998, and Nat'l Naval Affairs Cmte. Vice Chmn. 1999-2002.

John N. Roberto, Dept. of Connecticut. Nat'l Rehab. Cmsn. Advisory Board Memb. 1957-1962, Nat'l Veterans Preference Cmte. Memb. 1962-1965 and 1966-1970, Nat'l Mbrshp. & Post Activ. Cmte. Memb. 1964-1965, Dept. Cmdr. 1965-1966, Nat'l Public Relations Cmsn. Memb. 1970-1973 and 1974-1994, Nat'l Vice Cmdr. 1973-1974, Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Memb. 1975-1982, 1985-1990, 1993-1994, 1999-2000 and 2001-2002, and Nat'l Legis. Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1993-1994.

Be Among The First To Own The 2002 Gold American Eagles!

Now you can own the most popular gold coins in the world. Revered for their breathtaking beauty and exquisite detail these coins are truly among the U.S. Mint's most treasured issues. Right now you can order the \$5 coin for \$59 each and the \$10 coin for \$129 each... an incredible offer considering these are genuine U.S. legal tender and are the purest gold coins ever issued by the U.S. Mint. These prices may not last long so we urge you to order now.

(800) 323-5055



9405 College St. • Beaumont, TX 77707



VV# 2AL702

INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY		VV# 2AL702
A Limited Liability Company 9405 COLLEGE STREET • BEAUMONT, TEXAS 77707		
Qty. _____	\$5 Gold Eagle @ \$59.00 each.	
Qty. _____	\$10 Gold Eagle @ \$129.00 each.	Add \$9.95 for shipping and handling.
Total _____ Texas residents - for orders under \$1000 add 8.25% sales tax		
<input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> Discover		
CARD # _____	EXP DATE ____/____/____	
NAME _____		
ADDRESS _____		
CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP _____
SIGNATURE _____		
PHONE _____		

HEARING AIDS

UP TO 60% SAVINGS



30-DAY
TRIAL

TRY
BEFORE
YOU BUY

GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES!

- ALL MAKES & MODELS
- 30 YRS. EXPERIENCE
- TERMS ARRANGED
- ALL MAKE REPAIRS
- CUSTOM INSTRUMENT SPECIALISTS

FOR FREE INFORMATION CALL:

1-800-323-1212

We're the oldest, biggest and best

LLOYDS, DEPT. AL BOX 1645, ROCKFORD, IL 61110

The Collecting Opportunity of the Century



12 Nation Euro Coin Collection

only... **\$1995**

Experts agree that the new Euro coins are the most significant collecting opportunity of the 21st century. On January 1, 2002, a dozen European countries abandoned their own national currency to adapt the new common currency of Europe - The Euro. This collection includes all 12-five Euro denominated coins from the 12 participating countries, in a custom made informative map & folder. Add Postage of \$4 for 1 to 3 sets, \$7 for 4 to 10 sets. Order today as our supplies of the historic first-year-of-issue set is strictly limited. Please ask your representative about our deluxe 96 coin Euro Collection.



1-800-835-0008

New York residents add sales tax where applicable.
EASTERN NUMISMATICS INC. Internet
642 Franklin Ave., Garden City, N.Y. 11530 uscoins.com

4 WHEEL BIKE DRIVES LIKE A CAR!

- Easy to Pedal
- Multi Speed
- Street Legal
- 1, 2 & 4 Seater



Free Literature

1-615-822-2737 Ext. 3381 • www.4wc.com/3381
DEPT. 3381 • 125 RHODES LN
RHODES CAR HENDERSONVILLE, TN 37075

AWARD CASES

ALSO MEDALS AND RIBBONS

Solid hardwood, gunstock walnut finish. Full 1" between glass and black, blue, red or white velvety mounting board. 5"x7" - \$18.95, 8"x10" - \$24.95, 11"x14" - \$29.95, 14"x20" - \$39.95, 20"x24" - \$59.95. Add \$5.00 shipping per case. (No P.O. Boxes)

R. ANDREW FULLER COMPANY
Box 2071-L, Pawtucket, RI 02861
VISA/MC Accepted (Write for FREE Catalog)

AUTHORS

PUBLISH YOUR BOOK

ALL SUBJECTS INVITED

Write or send your manuscript to:

**ATHENA PRESS
PUBLISHING COMPANY**

1001 Brickell Bay Dr. #2202, Miami, FL 33131

U.S. MILITARY MEDALS & RIBBONS

www.vetssupplyline.com

1-800-864-5062

SEND \$1.00 FOR 48 PAGE CATALOG

VETS SUPPLY LINE

10650 CO. RD. 81, # 131

MAPLE GROVE, MN 55369

CUSTOM BALL CAPS - NAVY SHIP CAPS

FREE CATALOG

**Enjoy an active
rewarding lifestyle!**

Scooter Lifts & Ramps Available.
Quality & Savings You Deserve!

1-800-229-1317

Scooter Discounters

SEND ADVERTISING COPY AND REMITTANCE TO: Joan Rizzo, Classified Advertising, The American Legion Magazine, c/o Fox Associates, Inc., 347 5th Ave., Suite 1110, New York, NY 10016. (212) 725-2106, FAX (212) 779-1928. All classified advertising is payable in advance by check or money order. Please make remittance payable to "The American Legion Magazine." RATES: \$24 per word. Count street addresses and box numbers as two words; all city, state and zip codes as three words. CIRCULATION: 2,550,000 per month. DEADLINE: Advertising copy must be received 60 days before cover date of issue desired. All advertisements are accepted at the discretion of the publisher.

APPAREL

SUSPENDERS. Patented "no-slip clip." Catalog, (800) 700-4515.

BOOKS & MAGAZINES

BECOME A PUBLISHED AUTHOR. Ivy House Publishing Group. Write: 5122 Bur Oak Circle, Dept. AL, Raleigh, NC 27612, (800) 948-2786.

BOOK: *SLOW MOVING TARGET*, WWII-LSTS, (818) 894-6729.

CASINO SUPPLIES/PLAYING CARDS

DRINK TOKENS. Catalog, (800) 233-0828.

HEALTH/HEALTH-CARE PRODUCTS

HEALTH PROBLEMS- NO PROBLEM WITH THIS! (800) 735-5167, www.mylegacyforlife.net/nate.

OF INTEREST TO ALL

PROTECT YOURSELF! www.doorandwindowalarms.com, (866) 294-2386.

WWW.MILITARYPLUS.COM, serving veterans.

MILITARY CAPS/INSIGNIAS @ www.flagsoftheworld.com.

TAX FREE CIGARETTES starting at \$9.99. Call us,

(800) 542-6041, www.1SingleFeather.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

CIGARETTES/TOBACCO-CHEAP! Shipped fast, www.rednationtobacco.com, (877) 945-0704.

DISCOUNT CIGARETTES. Cartons start at \$13.95. Toll free, (877) 234-2447, www.senecasmokes.com.

PERSONALS

MEET NICE SINGLES. Christian values. Free catalog. Singles, Box 310-ALM, Allardt, TN 38504, (931) 879-4625.

ASIAN WOMEN! Overseas. Sunshine Penpals, (808) 325-7707.

RETIREMENT/RETIREMENT LIVING

LOUISIANA: Tired of cold winters, high crime, city life? Visit, www.kentwoodla.org.

TRAVEL/ RECREATION

FULLY GUIDED WWII RUSSIAN BATTLEFIELDS TOUR. Charisma Travel, (866) 714-4001.

WANTED

OLD TOY TRAINS, (304) 743-8767.

SWORDS, (800) 798-6167.

NEW SONGS/ LYRICS WANTED! Celebrity Records, Box 7438-AL, Sarasota, FL 34278.

BOY SCOUT PATCHES, (940) 455-2519.

JAPANESE SWORDS, (724) 413-3292.

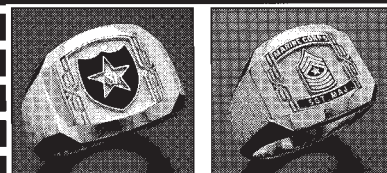
OLD GUITARS, (800) 451-9728.

CAMERAS, Leica, Hasselblad, Zeiss, Voigtlander, Nikon, Canon, Rolleiflex. Ritz Collectibles, (800) 956-9132.

WINE & BEER MAKING

WINEMAKERS-BEERMAKERS. Free catalog, (800) 841-7404. Kraus, Box 7850-LM, Independence, MO 64054.

A treasured symbol of your service



Choose from over 140 different rings

Classic Military Rings are in a different league from typical service rings. They're proudly worn by over 18,000 servicemen and women, both active duty and veterans.

Call today for a **FREE** color catalog:

1-503-731-9256 (24 hr. recorded message).

Or write: Classic Military Rings, 435 SE 85th Dept. A-702, Portland OR 97216.

www.ClassicRings.com [Code A-702]

Free Custom Design

All Military Related

Units, Badges, Ribbons, Rank

Vinyl Decals

www.military-graphics.com

PHANTOM DRIVER

Wonderful Vietnam related novel based on the author's life. Highly acclaimed by veterans!

Author - Walter David Herbert, Athena Press, ISBN 1 931456 43 7 \$11.95

Order through Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, etc.

www.phantomdriver.info

FACTORY SALE **UP TO 40% OFF**

SOLID I-BEAM STEEL BUILDINGS



- ALL STEEL- MAINTENANCE FREE
- CHOICE OF 13 COLORS
- ENGINEERED CERTIFIED DRAWINGS

FACTORY DIRECT
25 YEAR WARRANTY

30 x 45 (2 left)
40 x 65 (3 left)
40 x 90 (2 left)
50 x 110 (2 left)
some other models available

1-800-715-6482 EXT#200

*** Lifetime Warranty**
*** Nationwide Service**



FREE Video & Brochure

Sleep Comfort
ADJUSTABLE BEDS
1-800-401-8692
www.sleep-comfort.com

RHODES HEARING
FREE CATALOG!



MINI-CANAL
MINI-BTE

FROM \$199 & UP
*** SAVE HUNDREDS!**
*** 45 DAY TRIAL!**

CALL OR WRITE:
RHODES HEARING
201R11 OHIO ST.,
Brookport, IL 62910
1-800-320-3300 EXT R11

MEN: BE TALLER!!

TIRED OF BEING SHORT? TRY OUR HEIGHT INCREASING SHOES FOR MEN. UP TO 3" TALLER. OVER 100 STYLES. HIDDEN HEIGHT INCREASER. IN BUSINESS SINCE 1939. MONEYBACK GUARANTEE. CALL OR WRITE TODAY FOR FREE CATALOG.



ELEVATORS®
RICHLEE SHOE COMPANY, DEPT. AL27
P.O. BOX 3566, FREDERICK, MD 21705

1-800-343-3810

★ Display Your ★
Military Awards!

3000 Official
Medals, Badges,
Patches & Insignia
• Army • Navy
• Marines
• Air Force

Call for your **FREE** Color Catalog
Medals of America **1-800-486-1651**

Visit our Web Store @ **www.usmedals.com**

50 Mile Electric



Palmer's one-hand operated, double & single seat 3 wheelers are Gear driven.

FREE BROCHURE
Call 800-847-1304
PALMER INDUSTRIES
P.O. BOX 5707H
ENDICOTT NY 13763

Made in USA *Since 1973*

ALSO PEDAL / ELECTRIC 1 & 2 SEATERS & HANDCYCLES, ELECTRIC KIT FOR TRIKES
Visit us at our Web Site: www.palmerind.com

Celebrate July 4th & All Events
BIG-BANG® CANNON
GREAT GIFT IDEA! **\$159.95**



The only SAFE substitute for fireworks! Cannons produce a loud bang with a realistic flash of light. Patented in 1907. Made of cast iron and sheet metal. Easy loading and firing. Great for display when not in use. Made in the USA to last a lifetime. Available in 3 sizes: 9" cannon, \$69.95 postpaid; 17" cannon, \$129.95 postpaid; 25" cannon (shown here) with rapid firing and automatic loading, \$159.95 postpaid. The larger the cannon the louder the bang! Bangsite® ammo, about 100 shots, \$8.50; 3-pack \$20.00. Spark plugs, 3-pack \$2.00. Order via mail, phone or website. Mastercard, Visa, check or money order accepted. Money back guarantee. Send for **FREE CATALOG!**

The Conestoga Co., Inc., Dept AL, PO Box 405, Bethlehem, PA 18016
★★ Call 1-800-987-BANG ★★
www.bigbangcannons.com

PEACE
Shooting Ends In Pacific
Sun-Telegraph Extra Truman Names MacArthur To Head Jap Occupation
U.S. CRUISER SUNK



Relive your memories of VJ Day!
Reproduction of actual August 15, 1945 newspaper complete with news, editorials, sports, ads, and comics - 16 pages. \$12.50 plus \$1.50 shipping. No credit cards or CODs.
Hampton Co., Dept. T, P.O. Box 6873, Charleston, WV 25302

MOVING?



northAmerican Offers
Moving Discount
SAVE \$\$\$
On Your Next Interstate Move!

North American Van Lines offers American Legion members a minimum 50% discount on interstate moves. Let North American, the world's largest professional mover, transport your household goods with moving services to meet every need and budget. In addition to saving 50%, you will receive up to \$50,000 coverage on your household goods at no charge.

For more information or a free estimate call: North American Van Lines/Moving Solutions

1-800-524-5533
Email: andy.2828@aol.com

• HAT PINS • MEDALS •
• BALL CAPS

• FREE COLOR CATALOG
• 2500+ Military Designs
• Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines
• Call now! Toll-free!
1-888-223-1159
• Custom pins & patches available.
Dealer inquiries welcome.



HONORS
by Hoover's Mfg., Co.
P.O. Box 547AL, Peru, IL 61354
Fax: 1-815-223-1499

BUCKLES • PATCHES

30' x 75' x 10'
\$7,021



We Ship Anywhere In The USA!!! 10,000 Sizes, Bolt-Together Steel Buildings & Homes. Call Today For A Price Quote And Brochure.

HERITAGE BUILDING SYSTEMS®
800.643.5555
heritagebuildings.com

US & MILITARY FLAGS
MILITARY BALL CAPS
FLAG LAPEL PINS



Distinguished Products
888-954-3524
www.flagsale.net





Measuring, Management Style

A group of managers is given the task of measuring the height of a flagpole.

They go out to the flagpole with ladders and tape measures, expecting to finish the job quickly. They end up falling off the ladders, dropping the tape measures – the whole thing is a mess.

An engineer walks over, pulls the flagpole out of the ground, lays it flat and measures it from end to end. Then he gives the measurement to one of the managers and walks away.

After the engineer leaves, one manager turns to another and laughs. "Isn't that just like an engineer?" he says. "We're looking for the height and he gives us the length."

Free Reign

On their 25th anniversary, a husband took his wife out to dinner. Their teen-age daughters said they'd have dessert waiting for them when they returned.

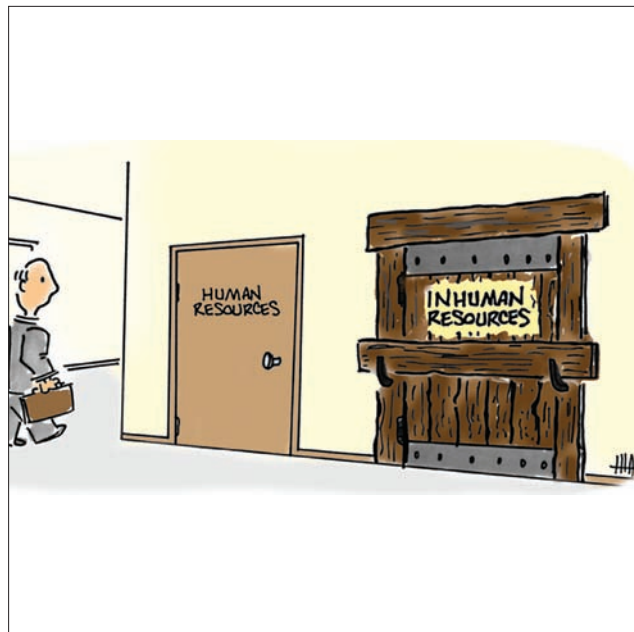
After returning, the couple saw the table was set with china, crystal and candles. A note read, "Dessert is in the refrigerator. We are staying with friends, so go ahead and do something we wouldn't do!"

"I suppose," the husband responded, "we could vacuum."

How to Get Rich

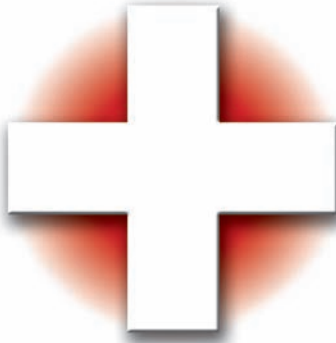
Borrow money from pessimists. They don't expect it back.

— Anonymous



Asbestos Cancer Hits Former Sailors

- Many who served aboard ship in the 1940's, 1950's, 1960's and early 1970's were exposed to asbestos.
- Due to the long latency period of these diseases, some are now coming down with asbestos-related cancers.



**IF YOU NOW HAVE MESOTHELIOMA or
LUNG CANCER, OR A LOVED ONE HAS
RECENTLY DIED FROM ONE
OF THESE CANCERS**

For Medical Resources:

Visit the Mesothelioma Web: www.mesotheliomaweb.org/n4658
or call toll-free **1-877-367-6376** to receive a free packet or to ask
questions. (Packet includes information on mesothelioma treatment, clinical
trials, cancer links, how to access legal and financial resources, and frequently
asked questions with answers by the law firm below.)

For Information on Compensation from the Asbestos Industry:

Law Offices of Jonathan David, P.C.*

10655 Six Pines Drive, #260
The Woodlands, TX 77380
(Greater Houston Area)

Handling cases nationwide with
local counsel in state of filing.

www.asbestos-attorney.com/n4658

Call Toll-free 1-800-998-9729

*Licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas
Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

Comfort Waist
SHORTS! *Less than* **\$10** **A PAIR**
 in lots of 3 *and*

FREE POSTAGE



Full S-T-R-E-T-C-H Back



EASY CARE!

- Cool, 100% Wash and Wear polyester/cotton poplin. **NO IRONING EVER!**

COMFORT!

- Hidden s-t-r-e-t-c-h back waistband!

POCKETS!

- 4 Big Pockets (2 side, 2 back with buttons), unbreakable nylon zipper, plenty of belt loops, gentleman's cut, neat, trim wearable length.

VALUE!

- Under \$10 a pair!



FREE POSTAGE

100% Wash & Wear

Haband!

Duke Habernickel, Pres.
 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
 Peckville, PA 18452

Imported

SHORTS! 3 for 29⁹⁹*

4 for 38.50
 5 for 47.25

Haband 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Peckville, PA 18452

Send ___ shorts. I enclose \$
 purchase price plus ~~\$4.50~~ **FREE POSTAGE!**
 toward postage. GA residents add sales tax

ALL THESE SIZES!

Waist: 30 32 34 36 38 40 42 44
 *Big Men (just \$2.50 more per pair):
 46 48 50 52 54 56 58 60

☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard
☐ Discover/NOVUS® ☐ AmEx

	WHAT WAIST?	HOW MANY?
02	Tan	
KV	Cranberry	
09	White	
8M	Chambray	
06	Grey	
10	Royal	
01	Black	

Card # _____ Exp.: ____/____

Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____

Address _____ Apt. # _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed or Full Refund of Purchase Price at Any Time!

Order Fast! Call 1-800-543-4810 OR **Order on line at**
www.haband.com